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Soviet troops and armored vehicles in Moscow on Wednesday as the Kremlin prepared a show force to counter a rally to be held Thursday in support of Boris N. Yeltsin.

Gorbachev's Foes Urge a Huge Show of Defiance

By Francis X. Clines
New York Times Service

MOSCOW — Democratic opposition leaders defied a Kremlin warning Wednesday and called on the public to ignore the Soviet government's ban on staging a political rally in the heart of the capital Thursday in behalf of Boris N. Yeltsin. President Mikhail S. Gorbachev's chief critic and rival.

Rally leaders emphasized that marchers should avoid police provocation and stay calm, but they remained intent on rallying the public against a parliamentary attempt by Gorbachev supporters to overthrow Mr. Yeltsin as president of the Russian Republic.

With the police firmly promising to prevent a rally in the central Manezh square outside the Kremlin, the city was set for a tense and uncertain day of political confrontation as the long-running Gorbachev-Yeltsin rivalry reached a new peak amid the nation's spiraling economic and political decline.

Muscovites, mindful of government warnings and at times exaggerated reports of police and military preparations, debated whether to buck the ban. Many were clearly making plans to try and march peacefully from two gathering points in the city toward the Kremlin, intending their presence in the streets as a moral blow against the Kremlin ban.

At the same time, leaders of Democratic Russia, the main opposition umbrella group sponsoring the rally, emphasized that marchers should avoid violence and follow the lead of city council members and other democratic politicians planning to try and stabilize the situation, with peaceful retreat, if necessary, according to some of them.

The rally is planned to follow the opening of the Russian Republic parliament. Members of the Communist opposition have called for Mr. Yeltsin's dismissal for criticizing Mr. Gorbachev and demanding his resignation.

There was a sense of wariness in the city Wednesday, with speculative discussions focused on two well-remembered events.

The first was the large march and rally 13 months ago when the

See KREMLIN, Page 2

Mideast Peace Talks: U.S. Seeks a Formula

It May Invite Soviets as Joint Hosts

By Thomas L. Friedman
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration is exploring the possibility of convening regional peace talks, with the Soviet Union also serving as a host, that would serve as an opening event for direct negotiations between Israel and its Arab neighbors, Western and Middle Eastern diplomats said Wednesday.

Although Secretary of State James A. Baker 3d has been tight-lipped about what exactly he is trying to do in his talks with Middle Eastern leaders, one approach that appears to be getting much consideration would be for the United States and the Soviet Union to *serve as hosts for such a dramatic* negotiating event, which would be the 1990s political equivalent of the visit to Jerusalem by President Anwar Sadat of Egypt in 1977.

The event or "engagement," as administration officials refer to it, would be a meeting in which the two superpowers would invite Israel, some Palestinian representatives, Egypt, Jordan and, ideally, Syria and the six Arab Gulf states — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates — to a ceremonial opening of direct talks.

The Americans "want to produce some kind of engagement, and the critical question is how," said a diplomat familiar with the discussions. American-Soviet "sponsorship of regional talks is one idea being considered," he said.

"But let me caution you that the Americans have not settled yet on exactly which way they want to push," he added.

Mr. Baker did not broach the idea during his talks with Middle Eastern leaders two weeks ago, but confined himself instead to discussing the mutual confidence-building measures that Arab and Israeli leaders might take to pave the way for such regional talks.

But Mr. Baker and his policy planning staff director, Dennis Ross, have since discussed the idea in follow-up conversations with various Middle Eastern officials in the last few days, the diplomats said.

Mr. Baker has seen Osama Baz, national security adviser to President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, and Adnan Abu Odeih, foreign-policy adviser to King Hussein of Jordan. Mr. Ross met Tuesday with Hanan Ashrawi, a West Bank Palestinian professor who was in the delegation of Palestinians that Mr. Baker met with during his recent visit to Jerusalem. Israel's minister of justice, Dan Meridor, one of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's closest advisers, has also quietly been visiting Washington this week.

In the administration deliberations, the ceremonial opening of regional talks would be followed up *by the various parties breaking into* separate Israeli-Arab, Israeli-Palestinian negotiations — much the way Israel, Egypt and Syria did after the 1973 United States-Soviet conference in Geneva.

The mutual confidence-building measures that Mr. Baker discussed with Arab and Israeli leaders on his trip to the Middle East would be used to help give all the parties the political cover they need in order to attend such regional talks.

Some Arab states, particularly in the Gulf, have expressed unease about going to such a regional meeting as long as President Saddam Hussein of Iraq is still in power, or alive.

Ideally, confidence-building gestures by Israel to ease the pressure of its occupation of Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and to reaffirm its commitment to implementation of Security Council *Resolutions 242 and 338, might be* used by the Palestinians and the Arab states to justify participating in such a conference.

Bart Noonan/Reuters

An Iraqi man making his way from a Red Cross refugee camp in Safwan, Iraq, on Wednesday with food for his family.

Hussein Downfall Likely, Bush Says

Reuters

BETHESDA, Maryland — President George Bush said Wednesday that the *turmoil* gripping Iraq made it unlikely that Saddam Hussein would be able to remain in power.

"It seems unlikely he can survive," Mr. Bush said after a medical examination at Bethesda Naval Medical Center.

It marked the first time that Mr. Bush had predicted that President Hussein would be toppled, although Mr. Bush had encouraged Iraqis to overthrow him.

"I don't know how long it will take," Mr. Bush said. But he added that pressure was mounting against Mr. Hussein because of the unrest.

"People are fed up with him," Mr. Bush said. "They see him for the brutal dictator that he is."

The president, who said he had received no formal request from rebel forces inside Iraq for help, asserted that the Iraqi people saw Mr. Hussein as a "leader who has tortured his own people."

Andrew Rosenthal of The New York Times reported earlier from Washington:

Mr. Bush has decided to let Mr. Hussein put down rebellions without American intervention rather than risk the splintering of Iraq, according to official statements and private briefings.

The White House said publicly that it would stay out of Iraq's internal strife, despite reports of atrocities by Mr. Hussein's forces, and a senior official *said the American military* had no plans to act on a warning to Iraq not to use combat helicopters against the insurgents. The United States acknowledges that Iraq has defied the warning.

The assertion that the administration has decided not to make any new moves to protect Iraqi rebel forces reflects a conclusion that the insurgents cannot control all of Iraq and would only succeed in fracturing the country, officials said.

Mr. Bush also believes that an American move to support

See BUSH, Page 3

Men With Knives Let on Plane

By Michael Richardson
International Herald Tribune

SINGAPORE — The four Pakistani hijackers of a Singapore Airlines jet, killed Wednesday when commandos freed 123 hostages, were known to be carrying knives when they boarded the plane for the flight from Kuala Lumpur to Singapore, a Malaysian minister said.

In a statement that astonished airline and aviation officials, Transport Minister Ling Liong Sik said the men were allowed to board the shuttle flight to Singapore "as under international aviation laws they are allowed to carry certain types of knives."

Passengers on the Airbus said that the four Pakistanis, brandishing two knives and sticks of crude explosives that looked like firecrackers, took over the plane Tuesday night as it approached Singapore.

Shortly before dawn Wednesday, Singaporean commandos, wearing face masks and carrying automatic weapons with silencers and powerful spotlights fixed to the barrels, stormed the aircraft, forced the doors open and shot and killed the hijackers without wounding any passengers.

Yeo Ning Hong, the Singaporean communications minister, said police negotiators, who included an Urdu-speaking officer, "exhausted every possibility of persuading" the hijackers to release the hostages.

He said that toward the end of more than eight hours of negotiations, the hijackers "became violent and threatened to kill the hostages."

Passengers and government officials said the hijackers had begun a five-minute countdown to start killing hostages when the commandos burst in.

In negotiations with Singaporean policemen over a radio telephone after the Airbus had landed, the hijackers demanded the release of several prisoners in Pakistan, including the husband of former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto.

A Pakistan diplomat in Singapore identified the hijackers as Fidah Mohammed Khan Jadoon, Sahid Hussain Soomro, Javed Akhtar and Mohammed Yusef.

Pakistan government officials said at least two of the group were members of the Zulfikar guerrilla organization, named after Miss Bhutto's father, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who was executed in 1979 by a military regime in Pakistan.

Miss Bhutto said Wednesday that neither she nor the Pakistan People's Party, which she leads, had a role in the hijacking. "We don't believe in terrorism," she said.

The hijackers threatened to burn the aircraft and stab passengers one by one unless their demands were met, passengers and Singaporean government officials said.

An Australian businessman who

See HIJACK, Page 7

Roslan Rahman/Agence France-Presse

A passenger, right, being embraced by a family member after an eight-hour ordeal aboard the hijacked Singapore Airlines plane.

Kiosk

Bush's Health Is 'Perfect'

BETHESDA, Maryland (Reuters) — President George Bush said Wednesday that he was in "perfect health" after a routine physical examination at Bethesda Naval Medical Center.

"I feel good, very good," said Mr. Bush, 66.

The extensive examination, which lasted about six hours, found no problems, according to Dr. Burton Lee, the White House physician.

The White House was expected to make public a more detailed statement on the examination later.

General News

Thousands protested in Belgrade to demand the removal of the Serbian president, Slobodan Milosevic. Page 2.

South Korea's ruling party won local elections. Page 7.

Blacks attacked a black funeral gathering in South Africa, killing 15. Page 4.

Sports

AC Milan was banned from next season's European club soccer competition. Page 17.

Dow Close	The Dollar in New York	
Up 2.72 2,917.57	DM	1.707
	Pound	1.745
	Yen	139.50
	FF	5.7865

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Israel Plans New Palestinian Crackdown

By Jackson Diehl
Washington Post Service

JERUSALEM — Reacting to a series of attacks by Palestinians against Israelis, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's rightist government is preparing a package of tough restrictions and punishments for residents of the occupied territories, including more deportations of Palestinian militants, officials said Wednesday.

The government is also openly encouraging angry Israelis to use personal weapons and "shoot to kill" any Palestinian who appears to threaten their or others' lives.

"If any Israeli, whether a policeman or not, sees someone with a knife trying to kill, he should shoot," the police minister, Roni Milo, said Wednesday.

The new measures run counter to appeals by the Bush administration that Israel cease expulsions and take steps to liberalize its rule of the territories, in order to help start a new peace process in the Middle East.

Senior government officials have rejected suggestions that such gestures would be more effective than a new crackdown, insisting that only more force will stop the recent attacks.

Seven Israelis have been killed and several others wounded in the last month in attacks by Palestinians inside Israel and in the occupied West Bank. In the latest incident, a Jewish settler in the West Bank was killed by gunfire near Ramallah on Tuesday night, apparently after being ambushed by Palestinians.

The violence has continued a trend that began in the fall, after the killing by Jerusalem policemen of 17 Palestinians in clashes on the Temple Mount. The spiral of attack and retribution nearly ceased during the six weeks of the Gulf war, then resumed with renewed force the day the war ended.

None of the recent attacks have been endorsed or openly incited by local activists of the Palestine Liberation Organization — though more radical Islamic groups have praised them — and at least two of the latest slayings were carried out by individuals acting alone.

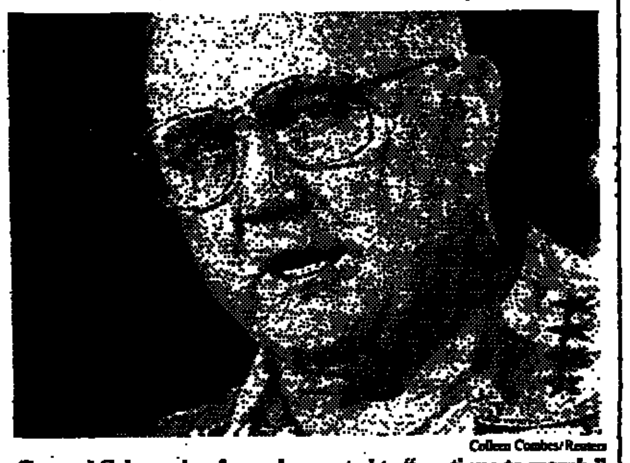
Organized Palestinian protest has been renewed since the war in the familiar and more moderate forms of the three-year-old *intifada*, or uprising: strikes and stone-throwing by youths against the army and Jewish settlers.

Nevertheless, Defense Minister Moshe Arens told the government's policy-making inner cabinet Wednesday that the best defense against the sporadic knife attacks was to carry out more deportations of Palestinian political organizers and activists in the territories as well as measures of collective punishment, such as the immediate destruction of homes of suspects.

As now applied, the measure blocks all but about 50,000 of the more than 1.5 million Palestinians in the territories from entering Israel, and hampers the ability of Arabs to travel from some parts of the territories to others.

During a visit to Israel earlier this month, Secretary of State James A. Baker 3d urged Mr. Shamir and Mr. Arens to consider a series of gestures to the Palestinians as a way of starting a confidence-building process with Arab states.

The suggested steps reportedly included an endorsement by Israel of United Nations resolutions spelling out the land-for-peace formula.



Colleen Combes/Reuters

General Schwarzkopf says he wanted to "continue to march." Dick Cheney says the general did not object to stopping war.

Schwarzkopf on War: He Differs With Bosses

By Paul F. Horvitz
International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON — General H. Norman Schwarzkopf landed in official hot water on Wednesday when President George Bush and Defense Secretary Dick Cheney contradicted the general's assertion that he had urged a longer allied "battle of annihilation" inside Iraq.

There was some confusion about what each official had meant as they commented publicly throughout the day, but there was little doubt that White House and Pentagon officials were annoyed at the man they had lionized as the architect of the military victory over Iraq.

In an interview to be televised Wednesday night, General Schwarzkopf, the allied commander in the Gulf, said that on the crucial question of when to cease the land offensive, "My recommendation had been, you know, continue the march."

"We could have reaped great destruction" on the Iraqis, he told the interviewer David Frost. "We could have completely closed the door and made it in fact a battle of annihilation."

The question could be important for military and political historians if it is shown that Republican Guard troops and other Iraqi forces who slipped through the allied gate later successfully put down the insurrection inside Iraq and propped up the regime of Saddam Hussein.

Transcripts of the interview made public in advance also showed that the general believed the allies' stated military objectives had been accomplished by the time hostilities were ordered halted on

See GENERAL, Page 3

In Sicily, It's Spring-Time for Imprisoned Mafiosi

By Clyde Haberman
New York Times Service

CORLEONE, Sicily — It has reached the point at Sicily's centuries-old Ucciardone Prison that some say it might not be a bad idea to install a revolving door. That way at least the Mafiosi would not have to strain themselves unduly as they go in and out.

In the last few weeks, they have been spinning through Ucciardone's imposing gates in Palermo at dizzying speed, first freed by the courts on legal technicalities, then re-imprisoned under an unusual and highly disputed government decree.

Italy's political leaders did not like it one bit that the judges had released men whose concept of fair play was to make sure their enemies were dead first before dissolving their bodies in acid.

But rules are rules. And in the Italian courts they are such that officials in Palermo and small Mafia-dominated towns like Corleone warn that it may be only a matter of months before convicted gangsters are let loose again onto Sicily's streets.

"All this does is once more convince many people that the Mafia is invincible," said Giusto Sciacchitano, a prosecutor in Palermo.

These are not the best of times for Italy's Mafia fighters, who have endured their share of blows, some of them self-inflicted, in the Sisyphean struggle against a criminal network said to be more deeply entrenched than ever.

Even the fact that relatively few major political figures are being killed in Sicily these days is sometimes cited not as a welcome development but rather as proof of organized crime's strength.

It means, officials say, that the Mafia is so sure of itself that it no longer feels a need to make its point through the barrel of a gun.

At the same time, prosecutors and judges seem less than sure-footed.

For the last two years, Palermo's Palace of Justice has been plagued by political intrigues and professional back-biting, a never-ending soap opera played out in public and serious enough to risk compromising the anti-Mafia battle.

Investigators faced criticism this month after they unveiled a 1,600-page study of political assassinations in Sicily going back a dozen years. Their conclusion was that the killings were the exclusive work of known Mafia bosses.

But that touched off press insinuations that the report had glossed over possible connections to political figures still in power.

In February, anti-Mafia magistrates in Palermo lost their leader of many years, Giovanni Falcone, who was transferred to a high-level job in Rome. He is about to be followed by a chief deputy, Giuseppe Ayala. Suddenly, the

See MAFIA, Page 7

Throngs Rally Against Serbian Leader

By Blaine Harden
Washington Post Service

BELGRADE — Calling for the resignation of their "Communist prince," about 25,000 anti-government protesters gathered here Wednesday to cheer speakers denouncing Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian president, and demanding new elections.

The peaceful demonstration, which Serbian police made no attempt to break up, was part of a growing anti-Communist opposition movement in Yugoslavia's largest republic. It came as leaders of the six Yugoslav republics were preparing to attend talks Thursday aimed at finding a framework for a new Yugoslavia.

In the past two weeks, since a bloody confrontation between Serbian police and young demonstrators, the opposition in Belgrade appears to have eroded the authority and popularity of Mr. Milosevic, who is the only hard-line Communist in Eastern Europe to have survived free elections.

"A government that has stained its hands with the blood of its own people has to go," Vuk Draskovic, the main opposition leader, told the crowd in Belgrade.

He was referring to the violence in Belgrade on March 9 when police officers armed with clubs, rifles and tear gas attacked demonstrators who were demanding that Mr. Milosevic loosen his control over government-owned press organizations in Serbia.

A multiparty board of inquiry in the Serbian parliament concluded Tuesday that Serbia's minister of interior lost control of police in the riot. According to the board, two people were killed and 203 injured in the street fighting that followed.

Since then, student demonstrations and harsh criticism from influential Serbian intellectuals has put Mr. Milosevic on the defensive. He dismissed senior editors at Belgrade television, allowed himself to be scolded in public by angry students and ordered the interior minister to submit his resignation.

Mr. Milosevic's assertions that demonstrations are being organized by anti-Serbian forces from rival Yugoslav republics and foreign countries have been widely dismissed.

In the past three years — up until this month — the Serbian leader had garnered popular support across Serbia by repeating nationalistic slogans and making vague accusations against ethnic groups that he described as enemies of Serbia.

Despite Mr. Milosevic's recent concessions, complaints persist about his continued control over state television and newspapers. Newly appointed editors at the television station and the main daily, Politika, are close political allies of his. The new appointments have triggered protests and small-scale strikes in the media.

Tuesday night, Belgrade television broadcast three hours of videotape from the riots March 9. Almost none of the footage showed police beating students. Instead, it showed angry crowds destroying property and taunting police.

The rally Wednesday was addressed by leaders of six opposition parties who form the United Serbian Opposition. All six parties were defeated by Mr. Milosevic and his Socialist Party in elections in December. Opposition leaders reject those results, saying they were tainted by Mr. Milosevic's control of the press.

Peter Kujundzic/Reuters

In Belgrade, two men participating in rally to demand the resignation of the Serbian president.

U.K. Communists Renamed

Agence France-Presse

LONDON — The Communist Party of Great Britain voted Wednesday to change its name to the "Democratic Left," in a bid to improve its image after the fall of Communist regimes in Eastern Europe, a party official said.

Feuding Tories Survive No-Confidence Vote Over British Poll Tax

By Craig R. Whitney
New York Times Service

LONDON — Prime Minister John Major's Conservative Party rallied Wednesday to defeat an opposition motion of no confidence by a vote of 358 to 238, despite feuding within the ranks and accusations that Mr. Major was being indecisive on how to replace the unpopular poll tax.

The Labor Party leader, Neil Kinnock, forced the debate in the House of Commons after Mr. Major decided last week to replace the tax, a per capita community charge for local government services, with a property tax that would vary with the number of people per household.

The government plans to spend the next few months defining how this new tax would be levied and testing reactions to ways of reorganizing local government. Then it will submit new legislation to Parliament.

Early Wednesday, the Conservatives pushed through the Commons a bill to reduce the community charge this year by £140 ($246) per adult, or nearly one-third of the average charge. The bill passed by voice vote. Labor did not oppose cutting the tax but complained about the speed of enacting the measure.

Mr. Major's predecessor and onetime mentor, Margaret Thatcher, is reportedly upset that he jettisoned the community charge only five months after taking over from her. She had introduced it in England and Wales a year ago and in Scotland in 1989 to make local government more accountable to voters.

On Monday, Nigel Lawson, a former chancellor of the exchequer and an opponent of the community charge who walked out of Mrs. Thatcher's cabinet in 1989, attacked the Major government for indecision.

"To appear to be unable to choose is to appear to be unable to govern," Mr. Lawson said in the Commons.

On Tuesday, Mr. Major struck back, saying of Mr. Lawson: "There have been a number of decisions taken in the last few weeks that he would have wished to take over recent years, but neglected to do so."

Aides said Wednesday that the prime minister was referring to, among other things, his decision to tie the pound sterling closely to other European Community currencies last fall, a step he credits with bringing British inflation down from double-digit figures last year to 8.9 percent last month.

But with the Labor Party now ahead of the Conservatives in some recent opinion polls, even Mr. Major's advisers say he may wait awhile before calling the general election that is due before July of next year.

Gorbachev's Disciples: Believers Without a God

By David Remnick
Washington Post Service

MOSCOW — A few nights ago, many of President Mikhail S. Gorbachev's earliest supporters in the intelligentsia gathered for the 60th birthday party of Yegor Yakovlev, the editor of the liberal weekly Moscow News.

These were the "children of the 20th Party Congress."

These men and women of Mr. Gorbachev's generation were Communist Party members who took their cue from Nikita S. Khrushchev's denunciation of Stalinism at the 20th Party Congress in 1956. They lived for the day when a leader would come along who could do open battle with the totalitarian legacy and build a humane system based on democratic socialism.

But the mood at Mr. Yakovlev's apartment was somber. His son Volodia said it was "as if someone had died."

"They just sat there, not talking, as if it were a wake," he said. "They realized their dream was lost. They'd all quit Gorbachev and the party. They were in opposition to the man they had put all their hopes in. They were like believers who were suddenly made to realize that there is no God."

The anti-Gorbachev opposition, the forces that are to march outside the Kremlin on Thursday in defiance of a Kremlin order, is led mainly by those same children of the 20th Party Congress.

Since the mid-19th century, the Russian intelligentsia has been crucial to the development of the country's public life. They organized the revolution. They created the dissident movement.

Now members of the intelligentsia, once Mr. Gorbachev's most essential supporters, have thrown their support behind a man they have never fully trusted, Boris N. Yeltsin.

Mr. Yakovlev, the author of admiring books and film scripts about Lenin, started Moscow News with the idea of creating "Gorbachev's newspaper."

He had been suspicious of Mr. Yeltsin, finding him cloddish, opportunistic and less skilled than the historical moment required.

But now Moscow News, especially after the use of force in Lithuania in January, is an opposition paper.

"Gorbachev hates us now," Mr. Yakovlev said. "When he says our name in public now, he uses the English — Moscow News instead of Moskovskiye Novosti — so that people will somehow brand us a paper of 'foreign ideas.'"

The funereal atmosphere at Mr. Yakovlev's apartment did not represent an isolated case. The shift from euphoria to disappointment and now to opposition has been a drama played out across Moscow.

Alexander E. Bovin, a journalist at the government newspaper Izvestia who was an early supporter of Mr. Gorbachev's initiatives in foreign policy, told friends that he still thought Mr. Gorbachev could reverse course once more and rejoin the revisionist fold.

"But I'm probably talking more out of emotion than wisdom," he said sadly.

Tatiana I. Zaslavskaya, a sociologist who wrote a crucial report in 1984 persuading Mr. Gorbachev of the country's economic crisis, is now an adviser to Mr. Yeltsin. Yuri N. Afanasyev, a historian who led the movement under Mr. Gorbachev to fill in the "blank spots" of Soviet history, is the most strident spokesman of the opposition movement Democratic Russia.

Vyacheslav Shostokovsky, once the rector of the Communist Party Higher School, where young Leninist acolytes learned the finer points of dogma, quit the party to help form one that supports the anti-Leninist principle of private property. Oleg T. Bogomolov, an occasional adviser to the Kremlin on Eastern Europe, now writes articles about the need for the Communist Party to repent for seven decades of terror and corruption.

Svyateslav Feodorov, a surgeon and former member of the party Central Committee, and General Dmitri Volkogonov, the former head of the army's political division, have joined Mr. Yeltsin's team. Even Georgi A. Arbatov, a foreign-policy expert and preternaturally flexible apparatchik who always seemed too tied to power to take the risks of opposition, has signed on as a Yeltsin adviser.

So great now is the onslaught of Gorbachev criticism that earlier this month a new liberal daily, Nezavisimaya Gazeta, published a long front-page piece titled "Apologia to Gorbachev, or The Epitaph of Perestroika," recalling what it cited as the 46 "significant" changes in the past six years.

There are few among the opposition leaders who think that Mr. Yeltsin would have had the political skill to accomplish what Mr. Gorbachev did in his first years in power. Few overlook the fact that Mr. Yeltsin, like Mr. Gorbachev, is a creature of the Communist Party apparatus, a party boss in Sverdlovsk who ordered the destruction of the house where the Bolshevik police shot the last czar and his family.

"The truth is, if Yeltsin had been in Gorbachev's position from the start, he would have broken his neck somewhere along the line," said Alexander Tsipko, a former Central Committee aide who now supports the opposition.

But the same intellectuals note that while Mr. Gorbachev has reached the limits of his flexibility, Mr. Yeltsin has showed an uncanny ability to evolve and surround himself with talented advisers.

In a fascinating turn of language and political culture, the conservatives — the forces supporting a strong centralized state and opposing private property — have accused Mr. Yeltsin and his followers in the opposition of being responsible for the mistakes of the past and using "populist, neo-Bolshevik tactics."

"Under the guise of democracy, the dictatorship of one party is being replaced by the dictatorship of another," Alexander Korneyev wrote in Wednesday's editions of the weekly Literaturnaya Gazeta.

In a manifesto of the conservative forces published in Sovetskaya Rossiya, a conservative daily, the Leningrad party secretary, Yuri V. Belov, accused Mr. Yeltsin and the opposition of "aggressive anti-communism."

Mr. Belov said that "anti-patriotism and worship of all things Western" was the "foundation of this anti-communism."

KREMLIN: *Opposition Calls on Public to Defy Ban*

(Continued from page 1)

Kremlin had issued dark-edged warnings of risk and danger, only to tolerate an ebulliently peaceful rally with no incident of confrontation.

The other was the lethal confrontation two months ago in Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania, when Soviet tank troops were used in behalf of local Communists to wade into unarmed Lithuanians picketing for independence. More than 15 people were killed, and Mr. Gorbachev later defended the action as necessary for the sake of maintaining government order.

Thus, the events Thursday seemed most likely to provide a further reading of just how much more hard-line, or tolerant, the Gorbachev government is willing to become in trying to deal with political protest.

The city has had two years of experience with street rallies by the nation's fledgling insurgent political opposition, replete with demands for Mr. Gorbachev's resignation, and there have been no instances of street violence.

Large numbers of police and military personnel were in reserve in and near the city, as is usual for all the city's planned and ad hoc political events.

There was no advance show of force to be seen beyond six heavy dump trucks parked at the main entrance to Red Square. Such trucks constitute a typical blockade on rally days.

Officials denied reports that armored personnel carriers would be used to block the marchers' way, saying authorities would mainly rely on their usual measure of large numbers of foot patrolmen and soldiers carrying rubber batons and guiding pedestrians from closed areas.

Mr. Gorbachev himself set the urgent tone of the confrontation when he called on the City Council Monday to ban the Yeltsin demonstration in the name of maintaining public order.

The city government, dominated by insurgent democrats, refused, saying that the rally had been legally approved and that the Kremlin ban was a violation of the public's right of assembly.

Mr. Gorbachev, accusing opposition politicians of seeking to exploit the nation's current hard times, then ordered the national Interior Ministry to supersede Moscow municipal officials and take control of the city's law enforcement.

Something of an emotional confrontation has preceded the actual street showdown. Tass, the Soviet press agency, contended in a commentary Wednesday that the public protest rally — a forbidden luxury during seven decades of Communist dictatorship until changes put through by Mr. Gorbachev — was nothing less than an attempt to "topple Gorbachev by crowd pressure."

Some of the Democratic Russia officials, in turn, asserted that Mr. Gorbachev's extraordinary measures against the opposition rally were certain evidence of his returning to "totalitarianism."

■ **Washington Reminder**

The Bush administration publicly reminded the Soviet Union on Wednesday of its commitment to allow public demonstrations, The Associated Press reported from Washington.

As a signer of the 1975 Helsinki accords, Moscow "has reaffirmed the right of peaceful assembly and demonstrations," the State Department spokeswoman, Margaret D. Tutwiler, said.

But Miss Tutwiler also said that restrictions on the right of peaceful assembly "are sometimes necessary for public safety and other legitimate grounds."

She urged Soviet leaders to "carefully balance concern about order with the need for public opinion to be heard in a public setting."

"Any restrictions placed on demonstrations should be as narrow as possible," she said.

Syria Plans to Double Military Force in Gulf

By Judith Miller
New York Times Service

DAMASCUS — Syria is planning to double its 20,000-member military contingent in the Gulf, as part of an effort by Arab nations opposing Iraq to strengthen security in the region, according to a senior Syrian official.

The official, who spoke on condition that he not be identified, said that the number of troops and the precise area to which they would be sent had not yet been decided.

Although Syria had said that the forces it was sending to the Gulf would be used only to defend Saudi Arabia, Syrian troops entered Kuwait and helped drive the Iraqis from Kuwait City, the official said. Diplomats here confirmed his statement.

The Damascus government has not released its casualty figures for the war. The official said Syria had sustained casualties: two dead and one wounded. He said the two "were killed and the soldier was wounded by mines in Kuwait when they were helping to liberate the capital."

U.S. officers had said that the initial role of Syrian forces was to guard the Marines from the rear in Saudi Arabia during the opening stages of the ground war. Only days before the war did the Syrians indicate a willingness to enter Kuwaiti territory, the Americans said.

The officers called Syria's role in securing a belt of territory just inside Kuwait modest but appropriate. Since the Syrians were armed with Soviet T-72 tanks, as were the Iraqis, a larger battlefield presence might have caused confusion.

There has been virtually no discussion in the government-controlled press in Damascus of Syria's role in the war. Diplomats and Syrians attributed this reticence to two factors: Syria has traditionally been reluctant to release such information, and President Hafez Assad has been concerned about the repercussions of a long-term association with U.S. troops in the region.

Many Syrians, bred on pan-Arabism and anti-Americanism that found resonance in the statements of President Saddam Hussein of Iraq, were stunned by what they saw as Mr. Assad's decision to back a new and unlikely set of allies.

Syria is said to have already secured $2 billion in aid from Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states. In exchange, Syria and Egypt, another major financial beneficiary of the war, have pledged to commit forces to help defend the smaller Gulf nations.

Chile Report On Rights Spurs Terror

By Nathaniel C. Nash
New York Times Service

CONCEPCION, Chile — Chile is being rocked by terrorist attacks after the release of a report detailing human rights abuses under the former military dictatorship.

In the last week, three police stations in Santiago have been bombed and six banks robbed by groups who said they are leftist extremists acting in reprisal for abuses by the former government.

On March 15, gunmen shot and killed the chief investigator in Concepción, Hector Sarmiento Hidalgo.

A leftist organization that calls itself the Rebel and Popular Forces of Lantaro, taking its name from an Indian leader in Chilean history, claimed responsibility.

On March 4, the government issued a report on rights offenses during the 17-year military rule of General Augusto Pinochet, which ended in 1990 after free elections brought Patricio Aylwin to power. The report catalogued the death or disappearance of more than 2,000 Chileans at the hands of rightist or government agents.

Officials and military experts warned that, if unchecked, the political violence could threaten the stability of the Aylwin government, which must deal with a military still controlled by General Pinochet.

"This kind of violence in particular creates a strong feeling of insecurity in the Chilean people," said Adolfo Veloso Figueroa, the regional magistrate in the Concepción area.

WORLD BRIEFS

Israeli General Sentenced to 13 Years

JERUSALEM (Reuters) — An Israeli Air Force general who confessed to fraud in a multimillion-dollar arms-purchasing scandal was sentenced on Wednesday to 13 years in prison and five years' probation, Israeli radio reported.

Attorneys for the officer, Brigadier General Rami Dotan, said they would not appeal the sentence, which matched a plea bargain worked out with the military establishment, the radio reported. General Dotan will be discharged with the rank of private and will have to return the $10 million he defrauded from the Defense Ministry while head of air force procurement, it said.

On March 17 before a three-judge military court, General Dotan confessed to 12 counts including fraud, bribe-taking and breach of trust in connection with phony arms purchases from the United States.

'Red Alert' for Cholera in Colombia

BOGOTA, Colombia (WP) — The Health Ministry has declared a cholera epidemic in Colombia and has placed the Pacific coast on a "red alert" to avoid the spread of the disease, which has wreaked havoc in neighboring Peru.

"We are faced with an epidemic, and we see from Peru the danger is great, and we are declaring the Pacific coast an emergency zone, on red alert," said Health Minister Camilo González, speaking at a press conference. More than 600 people have died in the cholera epidemic in neighboring Peru, where more than 97,000 cases have been recorded, according to the World Health Organization.

The ministry said that so far, 12 cases had been detected along the tropical Pacific coast, where a mostly black population lives largely in conditions of abject poverty, with almost no running water or sanitary facilities. No cases have yet been fatal, according to Mr. González.

Virginia Governor's Presidential Bid

WASHINGTON (AP) — Governor L. Douglas Wilder of Virginia, a Democrat and the first black governor in the South since Reconstruction, has authorized associates to form a presidential fund-raising committee.

Mr. Wilder's supporters planned to file organizational papers with the Federal Election Commission, possibly as early as Wednesday, said Paul Goldman, the Democratic Party chairman in Virginia and a close associate of the governor. Money raised by the committee could be transferred to a campaign treasury should Mr. Wilder formally declare his candidacy.

The presidential ambitions of Mr. Wilder, 60, have been no secret, but it was unclear whether he would enter the 1992 race or wait until 1996. He was elected governor in 1989 by a margin of 0.4 percent.

Guild Staff Back at N.Y. Daily News

NEW YORK (AP) — Some 100 members of the Newspaper Guild chanted, "We're back! We're back!" as they marched into the Daily News building Wednesday on their first day back to work after a rancorous five-month strike.

The eight other striking unions returned to work last week. The Guild took an extra week to sort out which employees would accept buyouts.

The British publisher Robert Maxwell acquired the tabloid after negotiating contracts with nine striking unions and getting them and one nonstriking union to slash 800 jobs from their prestrike work force of 2,300.

Riots in France After Youth Is Slain

SARTROUVILLE, France (Reuters) — Police fired tear gas at youths attacking a supermarket Wednesday when rioting flared again in this working-class suburb of Paris where a youth of Arab origin was shot to death by a security guard.

Police were questioning two security guards, also of Arab origin, allegedly involved in the killing of Djamel Chitou, 18, Tuesday night. Five policemen were injured then as 30 shops were smashed and 33 vehicles were damaged or burned while youths rioted in a shopping mall. Witnesses said that Mr. Chitou was shot at close range by one of the guards after a scuffle.

It was France's third serious riot involving young immigrants since violence in a suburb of Lyon last October and stores in central Paris were smashed in December. France has four million Muslims, mostly of North African origin and living in suburbs.

Girlfriend Detained in GI's Death

DETROIT (AP) — A woman who is accused of murdering her lover in a plot to collect insurance money days after he returned from the Gulf war was ordered held without bail Wednesday.

Toni Cato Riggs, 22, apparently was not legally married to the victim, Army Specialist Anthony Riggs, 22, because she had not divorced a first husband, according to court records.

A judge entered a not-guilty plea on her behalf at an arraignment Wednesday. She and her brother Michael Cato, 19, are charged with first-degree murder in the March 18 shooting of Mr. Riggs. Their hearing will be April 5; they face mandatory life imprisonment without parole if convicted.

For the Record

The Mozambique Army said it had killed 149 Renamo rebels in clashes in various parts of the country since the beginning of the month. A statement from General Staff headquarters published in Wednesday's edition of the Maputo daily Noticias also said 30 rebels of the Mozambican National Resistance had been captured and nine had surrendered. *(Reuters)*

TRAVEL UPDATE

Spanish rail workers striking for higher pay stopped trains for a second day on Wednesday as millions of travelers began their Easter break, a national railroad spokesman said. He said workers paralyzed Europe-bound trains from Madrid and Barcelona between 3 and 4 A.M. and between 10 and 11 A.M. *(AP)*

Air France ground workers at Orly and Charles de Gaulle airports in Paris plan Easter weekend strikes, unions said Wednesday. The unions want the airline to end austerity programs that stemmed from business lost because of the Gulf war. *(AFP)*

The EC said it had completed agreement with Yugoslavia for railroad links that will help integrate Greece more fully into the 12-nation trading bloc. The accord provides for EC-Yugoslav financing of a 1,200-kilometer (745-mile) link. *(AP)*

Iran's national airline announced that as of Wednesday it would raise ticket prices for Iranian nationals on international flights because of new Central Bank currency regulations. *(Reuters)*

Lines of stranded trucks at Italian border points were sharply reduced Wednesday as police helped drivers clear crossings that had been clogged by customs agents' slowdowns. Protesting delays in long-sought benefits, the agents threatened five days of *strikes* next week. *(AP)*

WEATHER

EUROPE	HIGH C	HIGH F	LOW C	LOW F	
Amsterdam	11	52	3	37	fr
Athens	19	66	11	52	cl
Barcelona	17	63	11	52	cl
Belgrade	20	68	9	48	r
Berlin	10	50	2	36	fr
Brussels	10	50	0	32	fr
Budapest	15	59	5	41	r
Copenhagen	13	55	3	37	cl
Costa Del Sol	19	66	12	54	o
Dublin	9	48	6	43	o
Edinburgh	8	46	1	34	o
Faro	16	61	12	54	o
Florence	18	64	8	46	cl
Frankfurt	9	48	2	36	fr
Geneva	10	50	7	45	r
Helsinki	6	43	-1	30	cl
Las Palmas	21	70	15	59	cl
Lisbon	15	59	10	50	o
London	8	46	3	37	o
Luxembourg	7	45	2	36	o
Madrid	11	52	7	45	r
Milan	—	—	—	—	na
Moscow	1	34	-1	30	sw
Munich	7	45	2	36	r
Nice	17	63	9	48	cl
Oslo	13	55	1	34	fr
Paris	11	52	6	43	cl
Prague	5	41	-1	30	cl
Reykjavik	4	39	0	32	sw
Rome	18	64	11	52	cl
Stockholm	6	43	1	34	r
Strasbourg	7	45	4	39	o
Venice	14	57	7	45	fr
Vienna	6	43	2	36	sw
Warsaw	7	45	-1	30	fr
Zurich	8	46	4	39	r
MIDDLE EAST					
Cairo	25	77	15	59	fr
Istanbul	10	50	5	41	cl
Manama	—	—	—	—	na
Riyadh	26	79	18	64	cl
Tel Aviv	22	72	10	50	fr
OCEANIA					
Auckland	—	—	—	—	na
Sydney	25	77	16	61	fr

ASIA	HIGH C	HIGH F	LOW C	LOW F	
Bangkok	34	93	25	77	fo
Beijing	5	41	-1	30	sw
Hong Kong	26	79	22	72	fr
Manila	33	91	24	75	fo
New Delhi	—	—	—	—	na
Seoul	6	43	2	36	fo
Shanghai	12	54	2	36	fo
Singapore	34	93	25	77	fr
Taipei	28	82	18	64	st
Tokyo	11	52	6	43	r
AFRICA					
Algiers	18	64	8	46	cl
Cape Town	25	77	14	57	fr
Casablanca	16	61	7	45	cl
Harare	17	63	14	57	r
Lagos	32	90	29	84	o
Nairobi	—	—	—	—	na
Tunis	21	70	12	54	cl
LATIN AMERICA					
Buenos Aires	22	72	12	54	fr
Lima	27	81	21	70	cl
Mexico City	29	84	9	48	pc
Rio de Janeiro	24	75	22	72	r
NORTH AMERICA					
Anchorage	4	39	-1	30	o
Atlanta	27	81	16	61	pc
Boston	11	52	8	46	pc
Chicago	21	70	4	39	st
Denver	12	54	-2	28	o
Detroit	22	72	5	41	sl
Honolulu	28	82	19	66	pc
Houston	28	82	19	66	pc
Los Angeles	13	55	9	48	sl
Miami	30	86	22	72	fr
Minneapolis	9	48	-4	25	sh
Montreal	12	54	8	46	sh
Nassau	29	84	17	63	pc
New York	15	59	9	48	sh
Phoenix	18	64	9	48	sh
San Francisco	14	57	7	45	pc
Seattle	12	54	6	43	fr
Toronto	16	61	6	43	sh
Washington	24	75	14	57	fr

cl-cloudy; fo-foggy; fr-fair; h-hail; o-overcast; pc-partly cloudy; r-rain; sh-showers; sw-snow; st-stormy.

THURSDAY'S FORECAST — CHANNEL: Rough. FRANKFURT: Cloudy. Temp. 10—0 (50—32). LONDON: Cloudy. Temp. 9—3 (48—37). MADRID: Showers. Temp. 16—7 (61—45). NEW YORK: Partly cloudy. Temp. 20—10 (68—50). PARIS: Fair. Temp. 11—3 (52—37). ROME: Cloudy. Temp. 17—11 (63—52). TEL AVIV: Not available. ZURICH: Cloudy. Temp. 10—2 (50—36). BANGKOK: Partly cloudy. Temp. 35—27 (95—81). HONG KONG: Overcast. Temp. 21—19 (70—66). MANILA: Fair. Temp. 34—23 (93—73). SEOUL: Cloudy. Temp. 11—2 (52—36). SINGAPORE: Fair. Temp. 30—25 (86—77). TOKYO: Cloudy. Temp. 16—11 (61—52).

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مكبرا من الاصل

THE GULF: As Kurdish rebels make inroads in Iraq, the Security Council prepares an ambitious truce resolution.

UN Plan: Iraq's Most Dangerous Arms to Be Destroyed

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

UNITED NATIONS, New York — The five permanent members of the Security Council met Wednesday and prepared to present the rest of the council with a draft resolution on terms for a permanent cease-fire in the Gulf war.

The plan is the most complex and ambitious effort that the United Nations has ever made to settle a war and punish an aggressor.

The new draft resolution, agreed on in talks this week involving the representatives of the five premanent members — Britain, China, France, the Soviet Union and the United States — orders the destruction of Iraq's most dangerous weapons, bans all military sales to its armed forces indefinitely and earmarks a percentage of all its future oil income to pay for damage caused by the annexation of Kuwait.

The cease-fire agreement also requires Iraq to inform the council that it renounces international terrorism and will not allow any terrorist organizations to operate from its territory.

The permanent council members met Wednesday to endorse the draft measure before presenting it to the other 10 council members. Diplomats said a vote could take place this weekend but was considered more likely next week.

They said the draft basically gives Iraq a choice between accepting the terms in return for being allowed to resume normal trade or remaining subject to UN economic sanctions.

Despite such provisions, the final draft imposes somewhat less humiliating terms on Iraq than the United States first proposed.

Under the proposal, the Security Council starts by ordering Iraq to accept the boundary it negotiated with Kuwait in 1963 but later rejected, and says the council guarantees that frontier's inviolability.

The original U.S. draft authorized the countries with forces in the Gulf to guarantee the frontier using "all necessary means" — a phrase clearly committing them to repel another aggression by force if necessary.

The new draft then calls on the United Nations to deploy rapidly a force of military observers along the Iraq-Kuwait frontier, occupying a buffer zone that will extend 10 kilometers (6 miles) into Iraq and 5 kilometers into Kuwait.

Deployment of that UN force, the resolution says, will "establish the conditions" for the United States and its allies to withdraw their military forces from Iraq.

The trade sanctions imposed by the United Nations after Iraq invaded Kuwait on Aug. 2, which prevent Iraq from selling oil, earning foreign exchange and trading normally, will not be fully lifted until the Security Council has set up a mechanism for compensating the victims of Iraq's aggression and until Baghdad has eliminated its chemical and biological weapons and its remaining ballistic missile systems, and given up any "nuclear weapons-usable material" that it has.

The five permanent members of the council also plan to end all formal restrictions on Iraqi food imports immediately, although in practice those were waived in a special committee decision last week.

They are also ready to let Iraq import "materials and supplies for essential civilian needs," though those must still be approved on a case-by-case basis by the Security Council committee administering the economic sanctions.

The five also say that the committee might allow Iraq to export enough oil to pay for such essential humanitarian imports before the oil sanctions are formally lifted.

But Iraq will continue to require Security Council clearance for essential civilian imports until council members are satisfied that it is adhering to the new resolution.

The draft plan for destroying Iraq's dangerous weapons requires Baghdad to submit details of its chemical and biological weapon stocks to the UN secretary-general within 15 days of the adoption of the new resolution and agree to on-site inspection.

Within 45 days of the resolution's adoption, the secretary-general is to set up a special commission to conduct the inspection and supervise the destruction of those weapons.

In addition, Iraq must hand over any "nuclear weapons-usable material or facilities" to the International Atomic Energy Agency, the monitoring organization based in Vienna, and agree to the supervised destruction of all plants used for its production.

Even after the destruction of Iraq's most dangerous weapons is complete and the oil embargo has been lifted, the new council resolution maintains an indefinite worldwide ban on the sale of military equipment to Baghdad as well as the technology needed for chemical, biological and nuclear weapons production.

The new resolution also directs the secretary-general to present proposals, within 30 days of its adoption, for setting up a fund that will receive part of Iraq's oil earnings and pay compensation for all losses and damage caused by the annexation of Kuwait, including "environmental damage and the depletion of natural resources."

Western diplomats say the five want to avoid the kind of punitive war reparations that the victorious Allies imposed on Germany after World War I under the Treaty of Versailles, which many believe contributed to Hitler's rise. *(AP, NYT)*

Romeo Gacad/Agence France-Presse

Iraqi prisoners of war at a U.S. checkpoint near Safwan, in southern Iraq. They were among 600 Iraqis who surrendered in the area.

Iraqi POW Ranks Grow, Up 3,000 Since the War's End

Los Angeles Times Service

WASHINGTON — While U.S. troop numbers are declining in the Gulf, the number of Iraqi prisoners of war is growing as Iraqi troops surrender or are captured faster than the allies are releasing them.

Allied forces now hold 63,000 Iraqi prisoners — 3,000 more than when the cease-fire was declared a month ago.

"We continue to have Iraqis turn themselves into us, and we still continue to find Iraqis coming out of bunkers and hiding places in the area which we control in southern Iraq," said Pete Williams, the chief Pentagon spokesman.

Officials said 2,793 Iraqi prisoners had been repatriated. Many prisoners have pleaded to remain in allied custody, however, until the unrest in Iraq has subsided, fearing that President Saddam Hussein's forces will punish them for deserting or surrendering.

In the past, U.S. soldiers had turned away some Iraqis who were trying to surrender at U.S. checkpoints, Mr. Williams said. But that practice has ended, he said, and all Iraqis wishing to turn themselves in are being accepted.

Kuwait Denies Torture of Palestinians

Reuters

KUWAIT — Kuwait denied Wednesday that Palestinians were tortured and killed in the emirate after the Gulf war.

"We have confidence that the world community has the ability to evaluate such falsehoods," Information Minister Bader Jassim Yacoub said.

The U.S.-based human-rights group Middle East Watch said last week that 30 to 40 people, mainly Palestinians, had been killed and 2,000 were detained by Kuwaitis seeking revenge after U.S.-led allied troops drove Iraqi occupation forces from the emirate four weeks ago.

Mr. Yacoub said his country was "ready to investigate all claims concerning the alleged illegal conduct of any Kuwaiti."

The Kuwaiti news agency KUNA quoted a letter to the UN secretary-general, Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, from Kuwait's chief delegate to the United Nations as saying that the International Committee of the Red Cross was free "to visit and meet any detainees in Kuwait."

The agency said the UN delegate, Abdallah Abu Hassan, had told Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar that the Kuwaiti government was "striving to preserve security and protect citizens and residents."

"It asserts that every citizen is responsible in front of the law for his actions and it will not allow any violations," Mr. Hassan was quoted as saying.

Kuwait's crown prince, Sheikh Saad al Abdullah as Salim as Sabah, met 12 prominent Palestinians on Tuesday to discuss what an official called "the tense relationship" with the Palestinians.

Sheikh Saad, who is also prime minister, denied a charge by the Palestine Liberation Organization that 200 Palestinians had been killed since Kuwait's liberation last month, but gave no figures of his own.

Life in Kuwait, meanwhile, is edging back to normal in the emirate as electricity, water and telephones are gradually being restored. Some street lights and the first traffic lights are working again.

Residents said well over half of Kuwait City is reconnected to electricity and telephone services are coming back. Some houses have water one day a week, but other families still have to rely on water trucks for supplies.

Officials said Wednesday that Kuwait Airways would resume international flights from the emirate in a few weeks.

Kuwaiti families receive a monthly free ration of food such as sugar and rice. They supplement it with whatever they can buy. Gasoline is also free, but motorists face long lines.

Kurdish Guerrillas Reported to Occupy An Iraqi Air Base

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

ZAKHO, Iraq — Kurdish guerrillas seized a government camp and overran an Iraqi air base, capturing two Soviet-made planes, rebel leaders and witnesses said Wednesday.

They also said rebels seized a government camp at Faardiya, on the road from Dohuk to Mosul, asserting that the air base and camps were among the last posts that the government had controlled in northern Iraq.

A group of South Korean and Bangladeshi workers from the major oil center of Kirkuk, 250 kilometers (155 miles) southeast of Zakho, said the towns and villages they had passed through on their three-day journey were all in rebel hands.

A leader of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan said in this town near the Turkish border that the two planes, a MiG-21 fighter and a Sukhoi bomber, seized Tuesday near Kirkuk were undamaged. But the leader, Jalal Talabani, said government forces destroyed three other planes before fleeing.

The Kurdistan Democratic Party said in a statement in London that the attack on the Khalid air base was launched to stop the bombing of rebel-held areas.

The statement, sent to The Associated Press in Cyprus, said more than 1,000 people were killed in the last week in air attacks on the northern cities of Kirkuk, Kefri, Dohuk, Kalar and Tuz Khormatu.

A London spokesman for the Kurdish Democratic Party said forces loyal to President Saddam Hussein had moved Scud missiles to Sadiya on the border of Tamim province in the north of the country.

The Kurds' control in the north contrasted with reports of Iraqi success in putting down a rebellion in the country's south by Shiite Muslims also trying to overthrow Mr. Hussein.

The official Iraqi press agency INA quoted the government daily Jumhuriya on Wednesday as saying that "peace, stability and order" had returned to southern Iraq.

Mr. Hussein, meanwhile, gave little hope to the rebels' plan to force him from power. Baghdad radio reported that at the swearing-in of his new cabinet on Tuesday, he told the ministers they had six months to prove themselves in their posts.

He said in the broadcast, which was monitored by the BBC in London, that the ministers appointed Saturday could expect "a difficult period" ahead.

In the southern part of Iraq, food riots erupted Wednesday in Safwan, a border town filled with thousands of Iraqis seeking refuge and political asylum.

Elderly women and children were among the hundreds of people who scrambled onto Saudi Arabian food trucks and fought among themselves for meal packages thrown into the street by both the refugees and Saudi soldiers.

"We tried to be organized, but the people are just too hungry," said Major Youssef Ali Albouri of the Saudi military. "They see the food and they go crazy."

The delivery consisted of 25,000 meals, more than enough for the refugees, but they piled onto the trucks while they were still in motion. The Saudi soldiers fired into the air in a vain attempt to stop the stampede for the boxes of bread, crackers, cheese and canned food.

There were no serious injuries.

It marked the fourth straight day of chaos at food distribution points in Safwan. Over the previous three days, the refugees stormed a post office and a school used by the U.S. military to hand out water, flour and meal packets. The military abandoned the sites, moving Wednesday to the grounds of a deserted construction company and calling in tanks to secure the area.

Civilians deserted Safwan during the war, but thousands of Iraqis have been arriving daily as they flee civil unrest in southern Iraq. Rebel groups, mostly Shiite Muslims, took control of many southern cities early this month.

But President Hussein's Republican Guard has recaptured all major cities. *(AP, Reuters)*

Saudi-PLO Meeting in Tunis

Reuters

TUNIS — The PLO and Saudi ambassadors in Tunis have met for the first time since the outbreak of the Gulf war, PLO officials said Wednesday. The Palestine Liberation Organization supported Iraq in the conflict, while Saudi Arabia was a key member of the U.S.-led alliance to free Kuwait from Iraqi occupation.

Japan's War Payments Hit Snag of a Stronger Dollar

Reuters

TOKYO — Japan said Wednesday that its pledge to pay $9 billion toward the cost of the Gulf war was based in yen, despite Washington's demand that Tokyo pay the full amount regardless of exchange rate fluctuations.

The White House said Tuesday that it expected Japan to pay the full amount pledged for war costs even though a rise in the dollar has decreased the value of the yen that Tokyo budgeted for its contribution.

Japan announced in January that it would give $9 billion to help fund U.S.-led multinational forces in the Gulf. That figure was based on an exchange rate of 130 yen to the dollar, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said. "We put it in dollar terms to make it easier to understand," he said.

Earlier this month, Tokyo set aside 1.17 trillion yen to cover its payments. The United States received 793.9 billion yen, currently valued at $5.7 billion, from Japan last week, the Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Washington expects $3.3 billion more in April. At the current exchange rate of about 139 yen to the dollar, the remaining yen have a value of about $2.7 billion.

Elsewhere, Horst Köhler, state secretary in the German Finance Ministry, said the recent rise in the dollar meant that the value in Deutsche marks of Germany's contribution to Washington for war costs would be 430 million DM ($254 million) more than expected.

This would increase Germany's contribution to the war to 18.3 billion DM. In January, Germany's contribution was estimated at 17.6 billion DM.

But Theo Waigel, the finance minister, said the additional cost would burden neither the economy nor the federal budget. He repeated that Germany would pay $1.68 billion to the United States on Thursday from dollar holdings at the Bundesbank.

BUSH: *Hussein's Downfall Likely*

(Continued from page 1)

the rebels would be opposed by Washington's Arab allies, would stir up domestic political opposition and would spoil hopes for progress on other regional issues, a senior official said.

That policy was reaffirmed on Tuesday at a meeting of Mr. Bush's top military and national security advisers, officials said.

Concerned by questions about the administration's intentions toward the rebellions in Iraq, Mr. Bush and his advisers had Marlin Fitzwater, the White House press secretary, issue a statement intended to dampen speculation that the United States might do more to support the insurgents.

Although American spokesmen used imprecise language to describe the policy on the helicopters, it amounted to a decision, at least temporarily, to let Mr. Hussein freely deal with internal dissent.

"We never made any promises to these people," the senior official said, adding: "There is complete agreement in this government that the American people have absolutely no stomach for a major military operation to dictate the outcome of a political struggle in Iraq. There is no interest in the coalition in further military operations."

The calculation is that if the insurrections fail, as officials here increasingly believe they will, Mr. Hussein's political organization will remove him.

"We don't want Iraq dismembered," another official said, "since that would go counter to the reason we fought the war."

"Let Hussein deal with this," he added, "then the dust will settle and he's going to have to pay the piper for the war over Kuwait. Or at least, that is what we are counting on."

The senior official said that while the United States would continue to shoot down Iraqi fighters and bombers, it would not attack helicopters unless they directly threatened allied forces.

"The contrast in the way we have responded to fixed-wing operations and helicopter operations is probably going to continue," he said, acknowledging that permitting use of the helicopters could enhance Mr. Hussein's chances of success against the rebels.

Mr. Fitzwater said that Mr. Bush was deliberately leaving his intentions "murky."

GENERAL: *Differs With Bosses*

(Continued from page 1)

Feb. 27. And General Schwarzkopf praised Mr. Bush for making "a very humane decision and a very courageous decision" to end the fighting.

But the general's comment that he had urged a longer campaign — thus suggesting that Mr. Bush had rejected the advice of his military commander on the scene — brought a terse response from Mr. Cheney.

In a written statement, Mr. Cheney said General Schwarzkopf and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Colin L. Powell, "made the recommendation to me and to the president that we had achieved our military objectives and agreed that it was time to end the campaign."

"The president and I spoke personally with General Schwarzkopf that evening to congratulate him on the outstanding success of the campaign," Mr. Cheney said. "He raised no objection to terminating hostilities."

Later, Mr. Bush said "there was total agreement on when this war should end" among himself, Generals Powell and Schwarzkopf and Mr. Cheney.

He said Mr. Cheney had spoken to General Schwarzkopf before issuing the Pentagon statement. But the president also told journalists "I have full confidence in General Schwarzkopf" and insisted that the general had not really said he had recommended a longer war inside Iraq.

A spokesman for the U.S. Central Command in Riyadh said General Schwarzkopf had not commented on the statements by President Bush and Mr. Cheney.

General Schwarzkopf, in the Frost interview, does not mention to whom he made his recommendation. But he did say he reported the Iraqi rout to General Powell on Feb. 27 and that both men agreed that allied military objectives — the defeat of Iraqi forces inside Kuwait and rendering Iraq's Republican Guard ineffective — had been achieved.

The comments left open the possibility that General Schwarzkopf made his recommendation for a longer campaign to his superior, General Powell, but that General Powell did not pass it along to Mr. Cheney and the president.

Mr. Bush reportedly made his decision to order a cessation of hostilities after a mid-afternoon briefing on Feb. 27 by General Powell in the Oval Office. The president wanted the hostilities ended quickly and was told it could be worked out overnight.

When Mr. Bush asked if he could make the announcement that evening, General Powell is said to have contacted General Schwarzkopf and the general gave his approval.

When the shooting stopped, the general said, he was "suckered" by Iraqi military commanders who asked for and received permission to fly helicopters over Iraq, ostensibly for transporting important officials between cities.

But instead, he said, the Iraqis have sent their helicopter gunships aloft to assault insurgent forces seeking to Mr. Hussein.

In his most extensive remarks on the desert operation, General Schwarzkopf accused the Cable News Network of "aiding and abetting" the Iraqis by picking up Iraqi television broadcasts of captured U.S. and British pilots.

"I did resent CNN aiding and abetting an enemy who was violating the Geneva Convention," he said.

Apparently with agitation, the general went on to say he understood there was a First Amendment and the "public's right to know."

"I just think that in the future when people choose to justify their actions based upon the American public's right to know, they'd better check with the American public first," he said, "because the American public has made it very clear to me, in all the literally hundreds of thousands of letters I have gotten, how they felt about the term 'the American people's right to know' as it was being used by the people who were doing that sort of thing."

Steven Haworth, a spokesman for CNN in Atlanta, replied: "I think there were some families who might differ with General Schwarzkopf and were relieved to see that their loved ones were in dangerous situations, but at least alive. I certainly respect his opinions, and it was a difficult editorial decision, but one that we can live with."

The four-star general explained in detail how his "hail Mary" war plan first crystallized in early November when he realized Iraq was leaving its western flank exposed.

At a meeting with his commanders around Nov. 10, General Schwarzkopf said, "This is the plan," and he described with two large arrows on a map the "left hook" flanking maneuver that was the hallmark of the Feb. 23 ground campaign.

The general referred to the possibility that as many as 150,000 Iraqis were killed in the campaign.

General Schwarzkopf explained his attitude toward the Iraqi death toll by quoting the Civil War general William Tecumseh Sherman, "War is the remedy that our enemy has chosen; therefore, let them have as much of it as they want."

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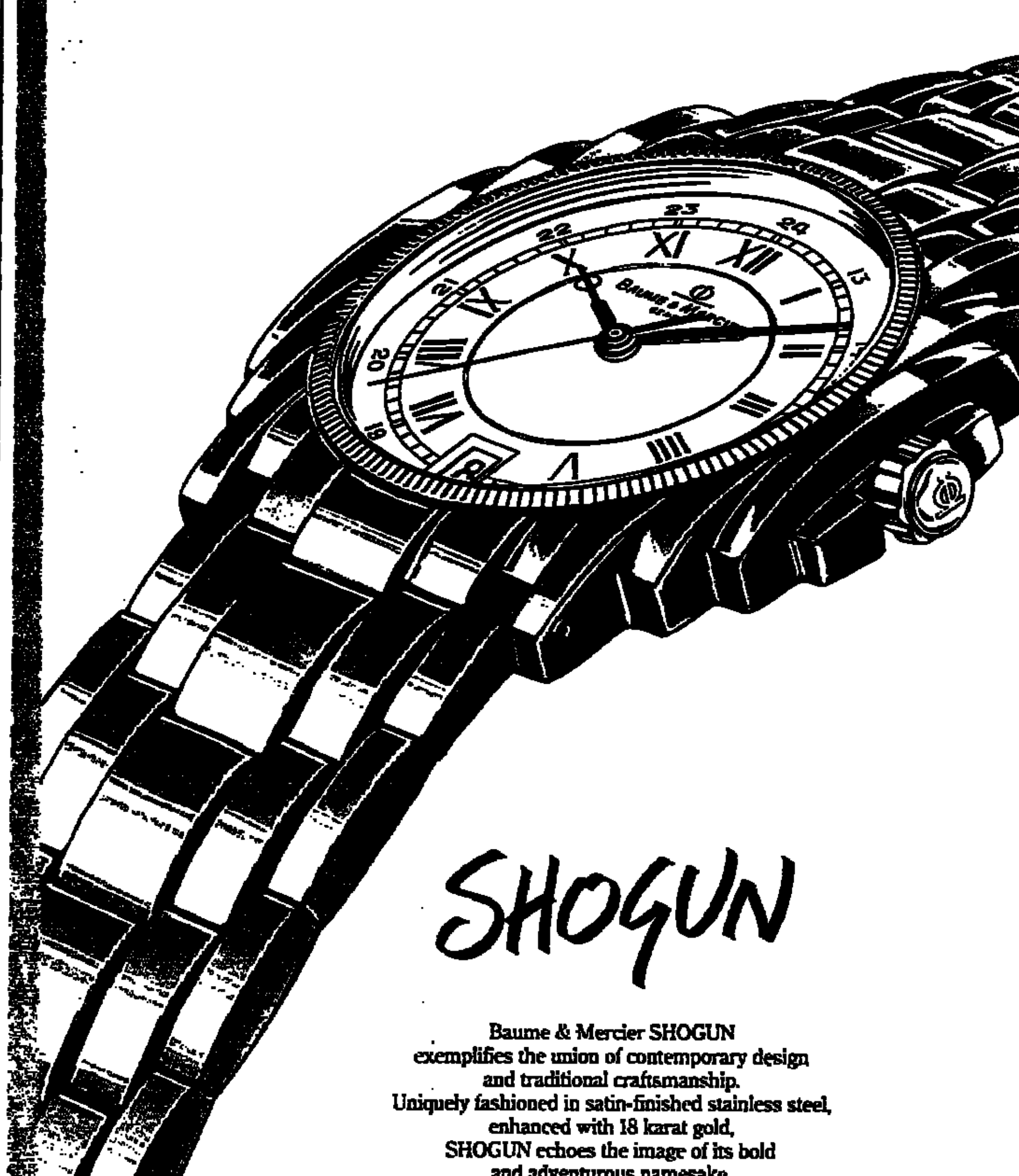

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15 Blacks Killed at South Africa Funeral

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

JOHANNESBURG — A half-dozen black men armed with automatic weapons and knives attacked a funeral vigil Wednesday in the black township of Alexandra, killing 15 people and wounding 18.

Police commanders said an investigation was ordered into the incident because the police had been warned that the vigil would be attacked. They said policemen checked the vigil, but were not asked to stay and left before the attack.

Scores of people have been killed in black factional violence in recent weeks in Alexandra, near Johannesburg. A police spokesman said the attack was not "political," but authorities said they did not know the reason for the killings.

The police and witnesses said several dozen people had been holding the all-night vigil for a member of the Congress of South African Students, an anti-apartheid group, who was killed in fighting between rival black groups.

The witnesses said that a van pulled up and that six black men demanded to be let in to the house. When the mourners refused, the men broke down the door and opened fire with AK-47 rifles and pistols.

The attackers then hacked and stabbed people, many of whom had been shot and were already dead or wounded, with knives and machetes.

The six attackers escaped.

Beatrice Mampane, who was at the vigil and escaped unharmed, said the police had been told there would be an attack.

"We told them we needed very strong security," she said. "They said they would watch. They went away, and the other people came and killed us."

The attack was the third major outbreak of violence in a month in a township normally tightly controlled by activists of the African National Congress, the main black opposition group.

The ANC accused the police of conniving in the attack to sow fear among blacks and weaken the anti-apartheid movement's attempts to re-establish itself after a 30-year ban.

Some of the mourners said the attackers spoke Zulu. Alexandra has been hit by factional fighting between Zulus and members of the rival Xhosa tribe during the past few weeks. Most of the violence is between the Zulu-dominated Inkatha Freedom Party and the ANC, in which Xhosas predominate.

The police said the people attacked overnight were Swazis, a group that has not been involved in most of the factional fighting.

A police statement said people at the vigil had warned police of armed men in the area and an impending attack. A police patrol checked the vigil, found nothing and left shortly before the attack because the people did not ask them to stay, it said.

The head of the South African police, General Johan van der Merwe, ordered an immediate investigation into the incident. He said the inquiry would be conducted by five white officers and five black officers. *(AP, Reuters)*

Adeline Bonnant/Reuters

Amadou Toumani Touré on the coup: "We only completed what the people started."

Mali Leader Vows Vote, Strikes End

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BAMAKO, Mali — Mali's new military leader, Lieutenant Colonel Amadou Toumani Touré, promised Wednesday to organize free and democratic elections as early as possible.

Mali's main National Union of Workers called off a general strike, and tens of thousands of people returned to work, heeding the union's advice to await developments.

"We must move very fast," Colonel Touré told foreign journalists, although he gave no date for the elections or for the appointment of a new government.

The leader of the 17-man National Reconciliation Council that removed General Moussa Traoré on Tuesday said a political timetable would be drawn up with the goal of civilian rule under a multiparty system.

He said the council's all-military membership — 15 soldiers and 2 policemen — was not significant, because "these people are not here to stay."

Leaders of the opposition movement said they were drafting a proposal that they planned to offer the new military leaders for a power-sharing committee that would pave the way for democracy.

"Those are the conditions, otherwise the fight continues," said Bakary Karandé, the leader of the Malian Union of Labor. He said the general strike would restart if the army failed to cede power.

Colonel Touré, 43, said the arrest of General Traoré had not been a problem. "We just did what the people wanted," he said. "We only completed what the people started." He refused to say in what circumstances General Traoré had been detained.

He said that the general was in good health and that his fate would be decided by "the judiciary and the Malian people."

He added, "It's no longer the army's business to decide."

He praised the actions of civilian opposition groups and gave repeated assurances that the new military leaders were fully committed to democracy.

A total of 59 people died during the coup — 40 Monday night and 19 early Tuesday.

In the riots that led up to the coup, at least 160 people were killed and more than 1,000 injured, according to various unofficial tallies. *(AFP, AP, Reuters)*

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Political Parties Say U.S. Should Extend Bias Law Overseas

By Barry James
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Representatives of U.S. political parties on Wednesday criticized a Supreme Court ruling denying anti-discrimination protection to Americans working for U.S. companies overseas, and they called on Congress to ensure that the 1964 Civil Rights Act was extended to all Americans.

The court ruled Tuesday that the act prohibiting bias against women and minorities did not apply to U.S. company operations abroad.

The 6-to-3 decision came on a suit brought by a naturalized U.S. citizen from Lebanon who claimed he had been the victim of race discrimination while working in Saudi Arabia for the Arabian American Oil Company.

A majority of the justices said there was no clear congressional intent that the 1964 act should apply outside U.S. borders.

Joseph J. Smallhoover, speaking on behalf of the Democratic National Committee Abroad, said:

"We hold it as an urgent priority on the part of Congress to modify the act in order to extend its coverage to all Americans, whether they are working for American companies in the United States or overseas, and to open the debate to see whether the same legislation should be extended to cover non-Americans working for American companies overseas, to the extent that this would not conflict with international conventions or local law."

In Washington, William Ali Mills, executive director of Republicans Abroad, said the ruling was a setback.

"Americans should be covered under the same jurisdiction as they would in the United States," he said.

Although conflicting legislation made this subject something of a gray area, he said, "overall, I think Americans should be governed by the same laws."

He said, however, that the vast majority of U.S. companies applied the same laws abroad as they do at home. "We deal a lot with the chambers of commerce, and we never had any instances of problems," he added.

An official at the American Chamber of Commerce in Paris said many American companies operating abroad had adopted a nondiscrimination policy that in many cases extended to non-American employees as well. But there are "hard cases," he said, where American companies have to respect different cultural environments, particularly those biased against women.

U.S. business officials in London and Paris said that because of local legislation, some U.S. companies were obliged to follow practices abroad that would be considered discriminatory at home. This is particularly true in Middle Eastern countries that prevent women from working.

John W. Wood, chairman of Republicans Abroad in Britain, said it was obvious that the court was not ruling on the principle of equal treatment, but on a point of law.

The justices were "asking Congress to clarify a particular point of the law as it applies to overseas American entities," he said.

"It is clear that the administration and the Republican Party feel that American law should apply inside American corporations both in America and outside of America," he said.

But he said the Supreme Court equally clearly "did not want to be put in the position where they had to extend the rule of American law into other countries without being explicitly told by Congress that this is how the law ought to be interpreted."

Mr. Wood said, however, that "American corporations try to harmonize their policies, particularly for American citizens, if for no other reason that, generally, American citizens who are working abroad have been placed there at great expense, and are a valuable asset."

EUROPEAN TOPICS

Women Will Serve In Finnish UN Units

The Finnish Defense Ministry plans to recruit women to serve in United Nations peacekeeping operations, Reuters reports. Up to 30 women will join two Finnish battalions in the Syrian Golan Heights and in Lebanon for noncombat duty later this year, a Defense Ministry spokesman said.

"The change in attitudes toward women and our defense minister's activity have been the main reasons for this decision," he said. It was one of the first moves made by Elisabeth Rehn after she became Finland's first female woman defense minister in June.

The women will be trained in self-defense but their contacts with the local people will be limited to working in medical facilities, the spokesman said.

Sweden, Norway, Canada and Australia already include women in UN peacekeeping forces.

Reuters

AN EASTER DEVOTION — Jozsef Koszpek of Szekespehervar, Hungary, applying the last of 598 minuscule iron horseshoes to an emu egg as Easter Sunday approaches.

Around Europe

Danish movie theaters plan to protest against an old law banning public entertainment during religious holidays by opening their doors at Easter. "The law is the last stand of the Lutheran Church," said Helle Schmidt, distribution chief of Nordisk Film, Denmark's biggest movie theater owner. She said it was unfair that movie houses should remain closed while television was showing films and video shops were open to the public. More than 90 percent of Danes belong to the Lutheran Church, but only a fraction go to church regularly.

German couples should get "divorce insurance" to solve the financial consequences of divorce, according to Siegfried Willutzki, a German marriage counselor. Mr. Willutzki told the Saarland radio station that legal fees alone cost an average 3,000 to 10,000 Deutsche marks ($1,775 to $5,900). Even worse, he said, are the sometimes lifelong alimony payments. The divorce insurance should be compulsory, as with cars, because hardly anyone would choose it voluntarily. Newly weds always believe their marriage will last forever, Mr. Willutzki said.

"Can all be well at Harwell?," asks the New Scientist in its latest issue. The British weekly reports that physicists at Harwell Laboratory, near Oxford, have discovered the heaviest element in science. Tentatively named "administratium," it contains one neutron, eight assistant neutrons, 10 executive neutrons, 35 vice neutrons and 256 assistant vice neutrons. And all these particles are held together by a force that involves continuous exchange of meson-like particles called morons.

Sytske Looijen

Chinese Won't Take Soviet Payment in Arms For a Commodity Loan

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BEIJING — China said Wednesday that it would not take Soviet weapons as repayment for a $730 million commodity loan it made to Moscow.

Diplomats began speculating that China might receive advanced Soviet arms as part payment after a Soviet air show last week in Beijing featured such state-of-the-art jets as MiG-29s and Su-27s.

"The Soviet Union has promised to pay back China in kind according to our bilateral agreement," Foreign Minister Qian Qichen said. "Among the inventories, there is no listing as weaponry."

China agreed earlier this month to provide the Soviet Union with a commodity loan worth 1 billion Swiss francs ($730 million) for food and consumer goods.

Mr. Qian said China needed to strengthen its military capabilities, adding that its "national spending on the military is quite limited compared with other countries."

China is to spend 32.51 billion yuan ($6.2 billion) the military this year, once a 11.6-percent increase on last year's budget is approved by the National People's Congress, now meeting in Beijing.

On his country's own policy toward arms sales, Mr. Qian said China had "a serious and responsible attitude" and sold only a small quantity of weapons abroad.

He called on countries that make and sell military supplies to show restraint, and he noted that a treaty banning chemical weapons, now under negotiation, failed to mention conventional arms.

The Soviet foreign minister, Alexander A. Bessmertnykh, is due in China Sunday, and Mr. Qian said the talks would cover "important international issues" as well as a trip to Moscow in June by the general-secretary of the Chinese Communist Party, Jiang Zemin.

"As members of the United Nations Security Council, China and the Soviet Union must increase contacts and consultations," he said without giving specifics.

Beijing and Moscow normalized relations in May 1989 when a visit to China by President Mikhail S. Gorbachev formally ended the 30-year rift between the two nations.

(Reuters, AFP)

Eritreans Free 3 Russians

Reuters

KHARTOUM, Sudan — The rebel Eritrean People's Liberation Front said Wednesday that it had released three Soviet Army officers captured in northern Ethiopia in March 1988.

Shuttle Crew to Test Assembly of Station

Reuters

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida — Space agency officials said Wednesday that U.S. astronauts would walk in space for the first time in more than five years when the shuttle Atlantis is launched on April 5.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration said the five-day Atlantis mission would include a space walk by two astronauts to test assembly procedures for the planned space station. The launching, if successful, would be the first of 1991 for shuttle program, which has been plagued by problems.

The shuttle Discovery had been scheduled for a March 9 launching, but the mission was postponed when technicians found cracks on the orbiter's fuel-line door hinges. Atlantis has similar but smaller cracks and NASA has said it is safe to fly.

During the Atlantis mission, the crew of four men and one woman will deploy a scientific satellite to study gamma rays. The satellite, which cost $617 million, is designed to detect sources of invisible, high-energy radiation believed to be remnants of the universe as it was formed.

NASA unveiled a design of the space station last week that the agency said was cheaper, smaller and easier to assemble than its earlier, widely criticized design, which had been projected to cost about $38 billion. The redesigned station, expected to cost about $8 billion less, would still cost almost four times as much as originally planned when the project began in 1974.

The European space agency, which will have its own module aboard the space station, is considering making its component smaller, NASA said. Another partner on the project, the Japanese space agency, already has a smaller module.

Antarctica Connection In North America Past?

By William Booth
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — When sponges and trilobites ruled the world and no creatures yet lived on land, the continents of Antarctica and North America were joined at the hip, according to new research.

The surprising configuration — which, if proven, would link two land masses never before thought connected — means that once upon a time the American West rubbed shoulders with what is now the South Pole. It could also explain the birth of the Pacific Ocean, which under the scenario would have been created when North America tore away from eastern Antarctica and the rest of an ancient supercontinent, leaving a gap to be filled with water.

Geologists have long known that the western half of North America was separated from another large land mass about 550 million years ago.

"The question has always been, 'What large land mass?' " said Eldridge Moores of the University of California at Davis.

Many scientists suspected that North America's long-lost neighbor was Siberia.

"We think it was Antarctica," said Mr. Moores, who on Tuesday presented the new reconstruction at a meeting of the Geological Society of America in San Francisco. His conclusion was supported in a separate talk by Ian Dalziel of the University of Texas.

The proposed new map of the ancient world accords with a generally accepted view in geology that the continents have roamed widely and weirdly over millions of years.

"Think of the supercontinent as a giant pizza pie," Mr. Dalziel said. "North America was like a slice of pie that fit neatly between East Antarctica and South America."

It is axiomatic among geologists that for billions of years the continents rafted about the earth's surface, riding the backs of immense plates of the planet's crust, themselves propelled by currents deep within the semimolten mantle. The movements continue today: The collision and grinding together of plates causes volcanoes and earthquakes such as those along the San Andreas Fault in California.

But the configuration of the continents in the distant past has been a jigsaw puzzle without an agreed-upon solution. Critics of the new geography stressed that the hypothesis was far from proven.

"It is geometrically possible," said David Rowley, a geologist at University of Chicago, "but I am not convinced at all."

Communist Paper Aims To Foil Bonn Takeover

Reuters

BERLIN — The Neues Deutschland newspaper, long the voice of East Germany's Communist establishment, said Wednesday it was fighting a takeover by the Bonn government's Treuhandanstalt privatization agency.

Under German unification agreements, the Treuhand can take over Neues Deutschland and run it as a trust, because the daily newspaper is considered to have been owned and controlled by the Communist Party. But its editors insist that the newspaper and its publishing house were a private limited company independent of the party.

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OPINION

Herald INTERNATIONAL Tribune
Published With The New York Times and The Washington Post

Now Help South Africa

One after another the legal pillars of the racist apartheid system are falling in South Africa. The latest to be ticketed are the laws denying blacks equal access to land. These laws have dispossessed millions of blacks, legally confined them to a small and poor slice of the country's land area, impoverished the black community, and otherwise denied blacks the advantages and choices of owning land and property. Unjust and injurious from the start, these laws have aggravated the cruelties that official racism imposes on South Africa's black majority. President Frederik de Klerk's move to abolish them indicates substantial progress toward what he is pleased to call "the new South Africa."

From his right in the white political spectrum has come an angry protest on the theme that Mr. de Klerk is selling out the freedom and order of his own people. This is nonsense. He is abolishing a privilege whose continuation threatens the future of his country, and he is doing so to enable his core constituency to live at peace and to prosper within the broader South Africa.

From large parts of the black political spectrum comes the complaint that the government's land reform, while wiping offensive laws off the books, leaves intact the economic preferences that whites gained from the dying laws. For instance, blacks whose individual lives and communities were shattered by dispossession may now get the right — but hardly the means — to buy back their old land. Aware of this inequity, the government proposes certain measures to help disadvantaged South Africans acquire land rights. But these measures fall far short of what is required by standards of fairness and by economic imperatives.

South Africa still needs a new political system in which blacks vote and vast amounts of capital. A new nonracial political system is meant to emerge from the consultations going on now among different South African constituencies. The extra capital for land, services and jobs for the disenfranchised will have to come from inside the country and outside.

Inside, whites are going to be pressed to share more of the wealth and opportunity; they must do so without destroying the free market that brings wealth and opportunity.

Outside, the countries and corporations that embargoed South Africa can claim success in helping force it to abolish apartheid and can turn to providing the politically unrestricted commerce and investment the country desperately needs. To move from punishing the South African economy to assisting it is essential to white interest and black interest alike.

— *THE WASHINGTON POST.*

Drawing Up the Peace

The United Nations seems about to crown military success in the Gulf with hard but equitable peace terms. The conditions for a cease-fire set forth in a draft resolution before the Security Council are remarkable in both their sweep and precision.

For Iraq, the price for cessation of hostilities is willingness to destroy terror weapons, pay a portion of its oil revenue into a UN-administered reparations fund and recognize the inviolability of Kuwait's frontiers. The council's five permanent members — the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, France and China — are close to final agreement on this landmark resolution. That would clear the way for likely approval by the council as a whole, meaning that Iraq will actually be held accountable for his crimes against the family of nations.

The cease-fire terms would put UN observers in a demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait, so that U.S. forces could withdraw to the safer confines of Kuwait and out of a crossfire in Iraq. If Saddam Hussein rejects the terms, the state of war will continue; so will the presence of foreign forces on Iraqi soil. Punitive economic sanctions would also remain in place, with an exception allowed for "materials and supplies for essential civilian needs."

These levers provide real pressure against a tyrannical regime fighting for its life against Kurdish and Shiite insurgents. Yet if Mr. Hussein accepts the harsh terms, he will be ending a war in which Iraq gained nothing with a peace in which Iraq's military power has been radically reduced, a dire outcome for which he would be personally accountable to the Iraqi people.

It is a fittingly bitter dilemma, and his only real choice may be compliance.

The United Nations' draft terms are deservedly punitive and preventive in calling for the destruction and removal of chemical and biological weapons, plus all ballistic delivery systems. This would be subject to on-site scrutiny by a special commission. Iraq would also be required to renounce nuclear weapons and place all its weapons-grade nuclear material under international custody for removal.

As compensation to victims of Iraqi aggression, a percentage of Iraq's petroleum revenue would be allotted to a special international fund to meet claims for injuries to people and property, including damage to the environment. The principle is surely just, though it may be some time before a devastated Iraq can make a substantial contribution.

Every bit as just is insistence that Baghdad once and for all recognize, as it did in 1963, the sovereign frontiers of Kuwait.

From every vantage, these seem the outlines for a safe and reasonable settlement that is consistent with UN resolutions and responsive to security fears of Iraq's neighbors. And by their rigor and breadth, these are terms calculated to discourage other regional bullies with covetous designs on vulnerable smaller states.

— *THE NEW YORK TIMES.*

An Unhealthy Paper War

Washington wags say there are 60 million Americans struggling with Medicare — the 30 million people over 65 who are eligible for federal health insurance plus 30 million relatives and friends to help them untangle the paperwork. Even that sour observation is an understatement, because 60 million does not include all the frustrated doctors and health care workers who say they, too, are drowning in paperwork. Medical groups say every visit to the doctor generates at least 10 pieces of paper, and the American Medical Association estimates that the average doctor's office devotes 80 hours a month to pushing paper.

In this kind of paper war, doctors lose, patients lose and people who pay insurance premiums lose. But there are some obvious and sensible reforms that government, the states, insurers and practitioners could undertake, to everyone's advantage.

Horror stories abound. The American Society of Internal Medicine recently reported the case of "Mary," 83, a Colorado Medicare patient. Erroneously listed as dead, she saw her Medicare payments halted even after investigators had visited both her and her doctor. The paper trail eventually totaled hundreds of pages.

Patients complain that their doctors hustle them through appointments. Many doctors agree. But what, they ask, are they supposed to do to make up for the time they spend fighting paper battles with insurance companies and government agencies? Doctors describe even worse battles with the review boards that sometimes challenge their intended treatments or second-guess them at billing time.

There is probably no certain remedy as long as American medical insurance remains a government-private patchwork. But that does not excuse any insurers, government or private, from simplifying and reducing the red tape burden. Congress took a stab at the problem last fall with a new law requiring doctors' offices to fill out all Medicare claims. Last month the Department of Health and Human Services announced the appointment of eight private doctors to review the agency's paper demands.

American health care is choking on all the forms. Peeling away the red tape would bring better medicine at lower cost.

— *THE NEW YORK TIMES.*

Other Comment

The Tough Choice for Bush

George Bush faces a dilemma. Either he supports Saddam Hussein to prevent the explosion of Iraq, or he encourages the insurgents to make the regime of Baghdad fall. There is no good solution. To support the Iraqi leader would amount to giving him a political victory that he was incapable of gaining on the battlefield. But a Lebanon-like Iraq is in the interests of no one. And the creation of an Islamic republic beholden to Tehran would immediately revive the old claims of other neighboring states.

Washington has clearly indicated to Saddam Hussein the limits to respect to avoid reprisals, notably regarding the use of chemical weapons against the insurgents. At the same time it is evident that if the United States intervenes directly, its Arab friends will have no other option than to accuse the White House of intolerable interference. The definition of a new order in the Mideast is imperative. But no power can designate it from the outside.

— *Le Figaro (Paris).*

Stick to U.S.-Soviet Goals

The political crisis followed by the war in the Gulf became a serious test for new relations between the Soviet Union and the United States. It is nearly universally recognized that they managed to pass this test successfully. The Persian Gulf events, however, have narrowed the field of Soviet-American interaction. They have temporarily moved to the background many important aspects of the two countries' efforts in the field of disarmament, bilateral contacts, cooperation in settling regional conflicts. Their efforts along these lines are now being resumed. It is no tragedy that the summit will take place later than planned. It is not a problem that the treaties need work. A pause filled with experts' activity is quite acceptable. But there must be no backing down.

— *Pravda (Moscow).*

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For the Real Victory, March Into Baghdad

By Samir al Khalil

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts — The idea that a weakened Saddam Hussein, or one of his cohorts, can ultimately hold Iraq together is a pipe dream. Taken as allied policy, this assumption is a license from the victors for his continued butchery of the Iraqi people. Nothing is going to reverse the fragmentation of Iraq except outside intervention.

Mr. Hussein's authority is in tatters. Iraqis rightly hold his regime responsible for the catastrophe of the war. Rebels are grouped by ethnic and sectarian divisions, not because they want a Shiite or a Kurdish state but because this is the only way they can organize.

Over time, however, the spontaneous uprising will be taken over by neighboring countries that want to shape Iraq in their image.

The Gulf war was the biggest event in the Middle East since the collapse of the Ottoman Empire after World War I. Did the United States send 500,000 troops halfway across the world so Iraq's unsavory neighbors could decide its future and that of the entire Mideast?

The scale of the Iraqi defeat carries with it a historic opportunity for a new beginning, one likely to shape the region's politics in less than a generation. But first the allied forces must recognize and work with the Iraqi insurgents. Then General Norman Schwarzkopf has to acquire the vision of a General Douglas MacArthur and march into Baghdad.

In between, the United States should assure the Iraqi people that economic aid would be forthcoming if Mr. Hussein is ousted, and it should denounce the central government as an outlaw regime. Refugees should be allowed to cross into Kuwait.

With so much at stake the Bush administration is conducting politics as usual, failing to decide whether to push openly for Mr. Hussein's ouster or to let it happen naturally, whether to give aid to the Kurds and Shiites or do nothing, whether to remain in Iraq for several months or to pull out the troops. But to turn back now is to invite further disaster.

Preserving the victory is more important than victory itself. What would have happened if the United States had withdrawn from Europe after World War II, with no commitment to democracy and economic reconstruction?

For eight months Americans were obsessed with Mr. Hussein. Was it all about purchasing the sovereignty of Kuwait at the expense of the sovereignty of Iraq, which if left alone would fragment and be allowed to fester and rot? If so, then the outcome will be instability for generations to come. And instability in the fertile crescent will spill onto the Arabian Peninsula as it has always done.

No postwar security arrangements will hold back the spread of poisonous ideas. If Arabs remember the war as having been simply about destroying Iraq, then it will have sowed a legacy of hate and bitterness. The Middle East will be worse off after the war than it was before in spite of the demise of Mr. Hussein.

The Iraqi people need help from the very armies that crippled them. Only with the ouster of Mr. Hussein and his Ba'athist regime can it be said that the Gulf war did the Arab world a service. With allied will, a federal, secular and demilitarized democracy, which guarantees national rights for Kurds and secures Iraq's neighbors from the fear of future aggression, is a real possibility in Iraq. Demilitarization is the underpinning of authentic democracy and ethnic peace.

Despite the destruction from the allied bombing, Iraq remains a highly urbanized country of great imaginative extremes. The high proportion of skilled workers, administrators, scientists and technocrats can provide the backbone of a genuine democracy in the Middle East.

The Iraqi middle class and the intelligentsia have not packed their bags and left as those classes did in Iran more than a decade ago. The oil revenues available for reconstruction give the experiment strong financial support. But first the people of Iraq need to be rescued from the savagery unleashed upon them.

Iraqi dissident sources say males aged 15 to 45 are being shot on sight in Basra. Dogs are feeding off human remains. People are starving, and waterborne diseases are spreading. The health system has broken down. General Schwarzkopf and his army will be welcomed with open arms by the people of Iraq.

Samir al Khalil is the author of "Republic of Fear," about Iraq under Saddam Hussein. He contributed this comment to The New York Times.

Writing Off Gorbachev? Not So Fast

By Jim Hoagland

WASHINGTON — Recent visitors to Moscow have found Mikhail Gorbachev as bitter and emotional as a jilted suitor. While Mr. Gorbachev is seen in the West as having abandoned reform, the Soviet president sees the West as having abandoned him, leaving him at the bottom of a deep well from which he is now emerging.

Despite Western doubts, Mr. Gorbachev has survived a harsh winter of turmoil and betrayal, finishing his sixth year in power, as he points out testily to European visitors. He believes he has ridden out and tamed the conservative backlash to perestroika, showing that the orthodox Communists do not have a viable program to deal with the Soviet Union's enormous problems.

But he has done so with little help from fickle Western nations who, so to speak, built him up to let him down. It is a convenient stance for the beleaguered president to strike. But there is also a kernel of reality: After six years, the West remains confused about his intentions and destiny.

It is barely six months since he was chosen Nobel Peace laureate, celebrated as the liberator of Eastern Europe and courted as the international superstar of summits. How — not whether — to help Mr. Gorbachev was the urgent question last October.

Britain, the host of this year's Group of Seven industrial nations' summit, was then floating the idea of "associating" Mr. Gorbachev with the annual gathering by inviting him to London during the July meeting. British officials say that the idea of a G-7 showcase for Mr. Gorbachev is now in limbo and not likely to happen.

The U.S.-Soviet summit meeting anticipated for June also is on the shelf, blocked by disagreements over arms control treaties that Mr. Gorbachev seems unable or unwilling to resolve. An invitation to Mr. Gorbachev to address a NATO summit meeting is still on the table, but his acceptance is now dreaded instead of sought. To add insult to injury, Boris Yeltsin has replaced Mr. Gorbachev, the Man of the Decade, as Time magazine's preferred Soviet cover boy.

The writing off of Mr. Gorbachev is in full swing. But this may turn out to be as overdone as was the earlier movement for his beatification. Those who see Mr. Gorbachev as saint and those who see him as the now unmasked closet hard-liner miss the point about this dynamic, pragmatic politician who has always been more interested in power and success than in causes.

He is a creature of circumstance, willing and able to respond as circumstances require; he is not the progenitor of dramatic change. It is not Mr. Gorbachev who has changed so much as the circumstances in which he operates. To expect more — or less — of him is to misunderstand the nature of, and possibilities for, change in the Soviet Union today.

Mr. Gorbachev has been saying something like this to the European foreign ministers and other leaders who have visited him in Moscow recently. They portray the Soviet president as stung, angry, speaking "in highly emotional terms about being abandoned at the most difficult moments for perestroika," as one foreign minister put it after a long conversation with him.

Some European officials have been urging Washington to grant Mr. Gorbachev a face-saving way out of the current impasse over the Conventional Forces in Europe treaty and clear the way for a U.S.-Soviet summit meeting. The White House, however, is insisting that the Soviets annul their unilateral reclassification of three armored divisions as "naval infantry" in an effort to exclude them from the treaty's provisions.

The CFE treaty is the issue that drove Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze out of the government, informed Soviets now believe. The cheating by the Soviet military on the treaty he had negotiated and Mr. Gorbachev's failure to intervene left Mr. Shevardnadze no choice but to resign in anger. For the United States to compromise on this issue now would dishonor Mr. Shevardnadze's refusal to go along with the retreat from New Thinking.

"Shevardnadze has a kind of courage that Gorbachev does not have," said Oleg Bogomolov, an influential figure in the Soviet Academy of Sciences and the Soviet parliament, and Mr. Yeltsin's senior economic adviser. "Gorbachev cannot say 'I will resign.' But neither can he find a way to legitimize his power and his role."

Mr. Bogomolov, in Washington to speak at a seminar, said he had been in touch with Mr. Shevardnadze, "who will make a comeback." He added, "It is important that he continue to work on a foreign policy for the future that will come into effect when the democratic forces are in power."

Referring to Mr. Yeltsin and his backers, Mr. Bogomolov said: "You have to deal with Gorbachev now. He represents the old union that signed disarmament agreements. But you do not have to support him. You should support the democratic forces for the future."

While understandably vague, this is a sensible middle course for Washington for the time being. It avoids the extremes of glorifying or remaindering Mr. Gorbachev, a practical politician who wears a gray hat after six years and gives no sign of being ready to ride off into the sunset.

The Washington Post.

Kuwait Can No Longer Afford to Ignore the People

By Daniel Pipes

KUWAIT — Kuwait is at a crossroads. If its emir, Sheikh Jaber al Ahmad as Sabah, and his aides quickly reconstruct the economy and learn to share power, the country can become a model for Arabs as well as an important ally of the United States. But if they dally and resist, Kuwait could well become a place of troubles. The stakes are high for Americans as well as Kuwaitis. What looks now to be a stunning U.S. policy success could look very different if Kuwait, the object of it all, starts to look like it wasn't worth the trouble.

Conversations with Kuwaitis who lived through the half-year of Iraqi occupation, with its atrocities and deprivation, manifest a growing impatience. They want a voice in running their country, and they want it now. Before the Iraqi invasion, Kuwaitis numbered among the most pampered and self-indulgent people in the world. But when catastrophe struck, they responded with a heroic seriousness of purpose.

The recently returned authorities seem not to have fully understood these changes. While they quickly agreed to reinstate the 1962 constitution, which includes liberal provisions for democracy, they have done little more. It seems the leadership hopes to retain its old paternalism.

The gulf between the authorities and the resistance is pervasive. Take the emir's return to Kuwait on March 14. The official press headlined the event: "Day of Return, Day of Homage" and provided a totally uncritical account of the event.

In contrast, an unauthorized broadsheet distributed in Kuwait City during the first half of March (and subsequently shut down), welcomed the emir home, but pointedly reminded him of several matters: Kuwaitis will not be subjects, but insist on being citizens; freedom cannot exist without democracy; and Kuwait "is not just a wellhead, but men and women."

While these are hardly revolutionary sentiments, they suggest tensions

Violent disorder becomes a real possibility.

— tensions exacerbated by the deterioration of living standards since Kuwait was liberated a month ago. Not only have hardly any oil well fires been extinguished and few mines cleared, but electricity, water and telephone services remain very limited. Municipal functions hardly exist. The country is in complete economic disarray: There was no Kuwaiti currency until just a few days ago, and banks were not functioning. Insurance payments have not been made. As the resignation last week of the cabinet confirmed, these problems stem less from technical difficulties than from a failure to make hard decisions.

Add this to the strong emotions and weapons found among the Kuwaiti population, and violent disorder becomes a real possibility. The fact that the resistance acquitted itself far better than the official forces, either the military or the police, raises the possibility, however remote, of civil insurrection in Kuwait.

Americans have an enormous stake in preventing this discord. It would further destabilize a key region. It would deprive the U.S. government of a new ally in a key region. And it would sour the Desert Storm victory, rendering future American military efforts harder to justify.

Fortunately, the U.S. government can do much to prevent this dire outcome. In the first place, it should devote high-level attention to Kuwait. (In particular, this means not getting overly distracted by the Arab-Israeli conflict.) President George Bush has announced plans to visit Kuwait in late April; he should not wait that long, for there is an urgent message that he alone can deliver to the emir — and that the emir has no choice but to accept.

Mr. Bush should press him to turn the promises of democracy into reality by fixing a date for elections and ensuring parliament's role in both drafting legislation and in appointing the cabinet. Because Kuwaiti leaders have little experience with democracy, the president might also explain the premises and virtues of democracy.

Further, Mr. Bush should address the sluggish pace of economic reconstruction, for this has become a political problem. He should urge the emir to delegate authority, either to competent Kuwaitis or to American corporations. These would then serve as project managers — one perhaps for the oil fields, another to repair the country's infrastructure. The project managers will then quickly and knowledgeably subcontract work to American and foreign firms alike.

If the emir chooses American corporations to fulfill this function, Mr. Bush might offer his personal assurance that they will do high-quality work with dispatch. Such a promise would address Kuwaiti fears about being taken for a ride, and it would send a unique signal to corporations: Rebuilding Kuwait is not just a commercial matter but a vital U.S. interest.

Time is short. Unless Kuwaiti and American authorities move quickly, a unique opportunity will disappear, leaving possible disaster in its stead.

The writer is director of the Foreign Policy Research Institute in Philadelphia. He contributed this comment to The Washington Post.

REJOICE, O KUWAITIS! YOUR CROWN PRINCE HAS RETURNED SAFELY — YOU MAY KISS THE ROYAL FOOT.
I HAVE A BETTER SUGGESTION, YOU FAT...

It's Africa's Turn to Take Over at the Helm of the United Nations

By Ramses Nassif

GENEVA — With the end of the Gulf war, fought under the banner of the Security Council, the United Nations will face a new challenge in achieving and maintaining a just peace in the Middle East. A good measure of this task falls on the shoulders of the secretary-general.

At the end of the year, Javier Pérez de Cuéllar of Peru completes his second term as secretary-general, and aspirants are already campaigning for the job. It will be Africa's turn to come forward with a strong candidate.

The unofficial candidates make a long list. Among the Africans are the finance minister of Zimbabwe, Bernard Chidzero; the former military ruler of Nigeria, General Olusegun Obasanjo; the former president of the UN General Assembly, Joseph Garba of Nigeria; the secretary-general of United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Kenneth Dadzie of Ghana; the assistant secretary-general at the UN secretariat in New York, James Jonah of Sierra Leone, and President Abdou Diouf of Senegal.

If the African countries fail to agree on an official candidate, other strong contenders being mentioned are Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland of Norway, and Sadruddin Aga Khan, who took charge of humanitarian questions for the United Nations in the Gulf crisis.

Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar will have served 10 years as, in the language of the UN Charter, the United Nations' chief administrative officer. But how long should a person be allowed to serve in this high post? The charter does not stipulate, nor does it indicate whether the incumbent should offer himself for re-election. A look at those who have taken on this important job focuses the question.

First to hold the post was Trygve Lie of Norway, who served from 1946 to 1953. In 1950, when North Korea invaded the South, Mr. Lie invoked Article 99 of the charter by calling an emergency meeting of the Security Council. The Soviet ambassador, Jacob Malik, was absent; he was boycotting the council to protest the presence of Taiwan. His absence enabled the council to adopt a resolution setting up a UN command under the United States to stem North Korea's aggression.

Aspirants are already campaigning for the job.

Mr. Lie's initiative angered the Soviets and when he came up for re-election, the U.S.S.R. vetoed him. When the General Assembly moved to extend his mandate, but without formal re-election, for another two years, the Soviets declared the act illegal and ceased to recognize him as secretary-general. Beset with such difficulties, Mr. Lie resigned.

He was succeeded in 1953 by Dag Hammarskjöld of Sweden, who was re-elected to a second five-term term in 1958. In 1960, Mr. Hammarskjöld invoked Article 99 in response to an appeal from Prime Minister Patrice Lumumba of the Congo and the Security Council authorized the secretary-general to dispatch a peacekeeping force to the former Belgian colony.

In the Congo, Mr. Hammarskjöld expanded the role of both his office and UN peacekeeping to such an extent that he became virtually persona non grata to the Soviets. This culminated in Nikita Khrushchev's demand that Mr. Hammarskjöld be replaced by a three-man board, or troika, made up representatives of the Western, communist and neutral nations. The demand was shot down by President John Kennedy and Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru of India.

The idea of a troika, although recently resurrected by William Safire *(Opinion, March 22)*, remains clearly unworkable. Not only is it against the UN Charter, one wonders whether such a far-fetched proposition has any merit at all.

Mr. Hammarskjöld tragic and untimely death in a plane crash while a peace mission in Africa in September 1961 came against a background of Soviet pressure for him to resign. He had served eight years.

U Thant of Burma served next. It was partly to defeat the troika that U Thant's candidacy was endorsed by the Western group. The Burmese diplomat, an eminent figure in the emerging Asian-African Group, was a candidate the Soviets could not veto. He was appointed acting secretary-general for one year, then confirmed for a full term in November 1962 after his dramatic intervention in the Cuban missile crisis.

By 1971, when delegates suggested he consider a third term, U Thant replied that after 10 years the secretary-general suffered from the law of diminishing returns. He declared that no secretary-general should aspire to more than a single term.

The fourth secretary-general was Kurt Waldheim of Austria, who also occupied the office for 10 years. Before his second term was up on at the end of 1981, Mr. Waldheim decided to seek an unprecedented third. Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Salim Ahmed Salim of Tanzania — now secretary-general of the Organization of African Unity — came forward as the candidate of the African Group.

The result was a clash between the haves and the have-nots, rich and poor. After the 18th ballot, Mr. Waldheim withdrew from the race, and a few days later, Mr. Salim followed suit. During the impasse, Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar was proposed. Four ballots were needed, and the Peruvian became secretary-general on Jan. 1, 1982.

For several years, diplomats have been debating how long a secretary-general should serve, arguing that five years is too short, 10 years too long. A compromise might be a single mandate of eight years, the incumbent not being ineligible for re-election.

The job of secretary-general requires a strong sense of duty, courage, morality, credibility and vision. Eight years would be long enough to manage what Mr. Lie called "the most impossible job on earth."

The writer, an Egyptian, was press spokesman for U Thant from 1961 to 1971. He contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1891: Threat to Austria

LONDON — The *Standard* is uneasy because the Czar is said by its correspondent to be massing troops on the Austrian frontier. It says that "unceasingly and indefatigably, without ostentation and without disguise, the process of converting the frontier zone into a fortified camp goes on. Those observers may be right who predict that next autumn will witness the bursting of the storm."

1916: Blockade Logic

PARIS — Beyond the supplies that trickle into Germany through Holland, Scandinavia and Switzerland, Germany now has to live, like bear in winter, on her own fat. Even those supplies only trickle in because the Allies are more generous than Germany would be if she were the blockader. When — it is a big when — Germany shall have extinguished British maritime commerce she will have cut off the supplies that now reach her through neutrals. She will be her first victim. Germany cannot help playing the professor; she is compelled by her pedagogic temperament to show the world how to blockade Germany. She is going to blockade herself.

1941: Yugoslavia Coup

LONDON — Great Britain will recognize the new Yugoslav government and will support it to the full against aggression if it repudiates the Axis pact, Prime Minister Winston Churchill declared in two public pronouncements today [March 27]. He hailed the Yugoslav coup d'état with the words: "Early this morning the Yugoslav nation found its soul." Churchill made it clear, however, that withdrawal from the Axis would be the criterion by which the new government would be judged. He said it was reasonable to expect that the new regime would repudiate the pact.

— From the New York edition of the New York Herald Tribune.

OPINION

America's Water Politics: Ready for the Big Flood?

By George F. Will

DENVER — You cannot fling a brick in this city without hitting a water lawyer, which strikes some people as a good reason for brick-flinging. Some people here say (some of them through clenched teeth) that 90 percent of the West's water lawyers practice in Colorado. Parched though it is, no one here says "Poor California!"

California has a drought but also has some Colorado water. And Coloradans are ahead of downstream Californians in making hard decisions — *and having* them made for them — about the West's limiting resource.

Last December one such decision determined that the Two Forks Dam, discussed and planned intermittently for 50 years, will not be built. Cheesman Canyon, 50 miles south of here, a favorite of fisherman, floaters and backpackers, will not be inundated by 359 billion gallons of river water behind a dam 615 feet tall.

The result has been a scramble by communities and other interests to see what water rights are for sale. That depends on prices, which depend on — well, that depends. Decisions, essentially political, must be made about what the West is going to be. They will affect the rest of us, not only when we vacation but also when we buy food.

Less than a century ago much of the territory west of the Mississippi was designated on many maps as "The Great American Desert." Water, or the scarcity of it, made the West what it is — inhabitable and productive, or not.

To understand Colorado's testiness, understand geography. Colorado is the only state that has no rivers flowing into it from elsewhere. Eight — the Platte, Rio Grande, Arkansas, Yampa, White, Dolores, San Juan and Colorado — rise here and flow out. Some of the Colorado reaches California.

Water is a peculiar sort of resource. It falls from the sky or gathers underground. It flows down from mountains and through many jurisdictions. Water has been a reason for bloodshed for as long as mankind has been fighting, and the West has its share of water wars.

Today we are civilized as all get out, so we litigate rather than fight. Sorting out the property rights to this precious fluid (more precious, over time, than oil) made Westerners unusually litigious even for Americans. It also made them highly political and uncomfortably wedded to the federal government. The federal government owns much of the West (79 percent of Nevada, Idaho 61, Utah 60, Oregon 52, Wyoming 47, California 45, Arizona 45, Colorado 30, New Mexico 33, Montana 30). And the West's fate has been bound up with the Bureau of Reclamation.

But now another, much newer federal agency matters, too. The Environmental Protection Agency sealed the fate of the Two Forks dam, thereby probably putting an end to the era of the big dams that made the modern West. The animating value of that era — economic development — collides everywhere with other values, including environmental preservation.

The species whose habitats are threatened include not just trout but suburbanites. Many people moved to Colorado to enjoy the environmental assets that their moving here has jeopardized. Some would like to close Colorado's door. They can slow its growth. One way *to do that is to turn the water tap until* local governments find it difficult to authorize more sewer hookups.

Denver does not need more water for itself, and the surrounding satellite communities are not yet in dire straits. However, Two Forks dam would have facilitated continuing urbanization of the front range of the Rockies, from Fort Collins to Pueblo.

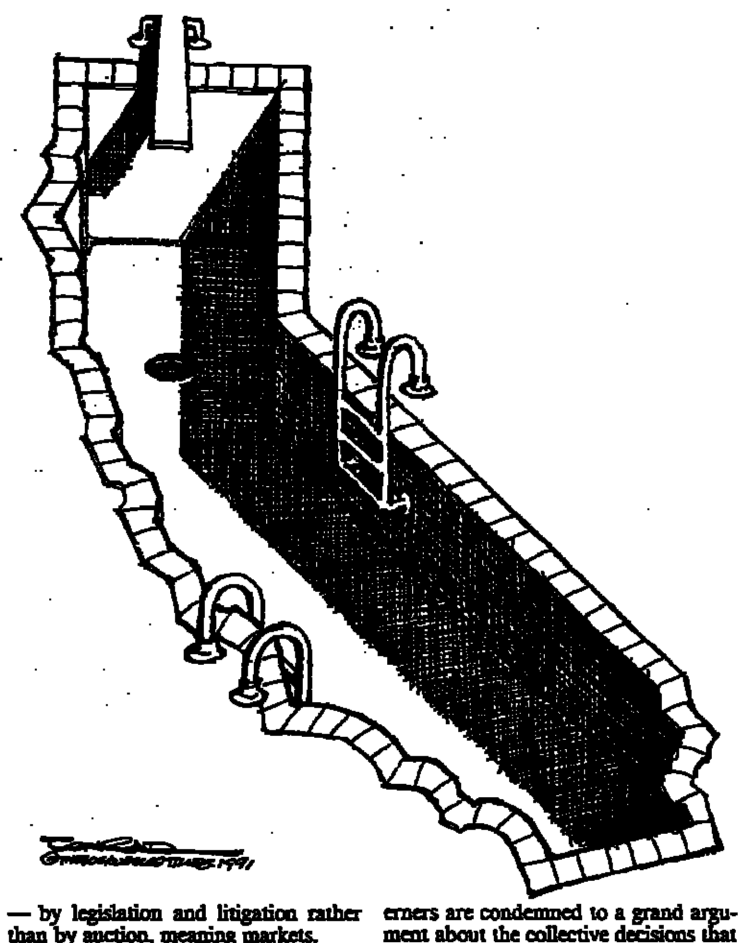
Residential and commercial development requires water, but agriculture requires much more of it: 90 percent of Colorado's water goes for irrigation and other agricultural purposes. Furthermore, fly fishing and other recreational uses of water are now big business (tourism is a $5.6 billion chunk of Colorado's economy) as well as recreation for the natives.

Americans, a people of plenty, are loath to learn that scarcity can be an improving experience. Just as recessions wring inefficiencies from the economy, increased competition for a scarce resource encourages economic rationality.

Water has flowed into current uses because it has been cheap relative to economic returns from using it. It has been cheap not only because it has been plentiful but because it has been allocated politically rather than economically — by legislation and litigation rather than by auction, meaning markets.

Americans are more ready to praise markets than to surrender their destinies to them. Economic rationality is just one value among many. Water will increasingly force the West to make, as no other region must, semi-socialist choices. It must choose between government policies that will plan different futures.

So henceforth the West's wide open spaces, home to rugged individualists, will ring with political rhetoric. Westerners are condemned to a grand argument about the collective decisions that will allocate the scarce resource on which everything depends.



It was good to hear from Walter Mondale again, even if he wrote only to box my ears for writing in my column for March 7 that he had opposed the liberation of Grenada. I erred and, well-boxed, am pleased to set the record straight.

Washington Post Writers Group.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Spread Around the Relief?

Regarding "Poland Wins 'Extraordinary' Terms of Forgiveness on Debt" (Business/Finance, March 16):

The Philippines, too, "has ended central planning, scrapped price controls and slashed subsidies to consumers and industry, but these radical moves have helped cause industrial output to plunge and unemployment to spiral," to quote your report. In fact, the government of President Corazon Aquino has complied with every demand of the International Monetary Fund and the Paris Club. On top of this, the Philippines is paying its foreign debt of $28 billion with 42 percent of its export earnings. Still, the Philippines gets no forgiveness of its debts, while Poland, which even stopped payment of its loans at one time, gets half its Western debt written off.

ANTONIO C. MODENA.
Bonn.

Two Warsaw Uprisings

Regarding "Now Help the Iraqis to Govern Themselves" by Ahmad Chalabi (Opinion, March 13):

It is true that, in 1944, the "Red Army waited at the gates of Warsaw." However, it was not in order to give the Nazis time to "smother the uprising in the ghetto." At that time, the Warsaw ghetto had long since been destroyed. The Germans "smothered" its few remaining Jews during their heroic uprising in March-April 1943. The uprising about which Mr. Chalabi is writing, and which the Russians wanted to be smothered by the Germans, was another one, that of the general population of Warsaw, in August-September 1944.

ELEASAR J. FEUERMAN.
Tel Aviv.

The Feel-Good War

The soldiers in the Gulf war didn't kill for what was right, they killed to make us *feel* good. That's the message of our culture. Anti-perspirants make us *feel* confident, McDonald's makes us *feel* happy, and Marlboros make us *feel* like men, unless, of course, you've come a long way, baby. Never mind the negative effects of using these commodities, it's the feeling that counts. Never mind the tens of thousands who were killed. It was a needed fix that *felt* good. This opiate, this empty euphoria bought at such a high cost, is America's number one drug problem.

PAUL A. MORGAN.
Taipei.

Letters intended for publication should be addressed "Letters to the Editor" and contain the writer's signature, name and full address. Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. We cannot be responsible for the return of unsolicited manuscripts.

The Mideast Carries a Sickness of Spirit

By Kai Bird

WASHINGTON — As the images of war and its aftermath flickered across my television screen, the anguish and dread I felt for the Arabs and Jews and Americans of my childhood left a pit in my stomach. When I saw soldiers based in my childhood home, Dhahran, and Jews cowering behind gas masks and angry Palestinians throwing rocks in Jerusalem, protesting the bombing of Baghdad, I felt a part of them all — the soldiers, the Jews and the Palestinians.

Reading obituaries of those American soldiers who lost their lives in Desert Storm, I am reminded of the young men who coached me swimming at the Dhahran air base so many

MEANWHILE

years ago. They wear the same tattoos, speak with the same Southern drawls and, no doubt, still smuggle in Playboy pinups to hang on their walls, just like the 20-year-old Corporal Rob Tiller who befriended a shy 11-year-old in 1962.

I also remembered Sami, my playmate in Jerusalem from the age of 4 to 6. He had red hair, blue eyes and a face full of freckles. We were both noisy, aggressive boys; I taught him to play cowboys and Indians in the garden our two families shared in a house under the shadow of Mount Scopus.

His father, Yusuf, came from an old Muslim Palestinian family and was known as the best wrought-iron worker in all of East Jerusalem. He had learned his trade in prewar Germany, where he met and married a German Jew. She was a nervous woman, obviously devoted to the man who had taken her out of Nazi Germany. Their son was raised a Palestinian, speaking fluent Arabic, English and German.

But when the June 1967 war came, and the walls came down in the heretofore divided city, Sami walked across to West Jerusalem and discovered that he was considered by Israelis to be a Jew.

When I looked him up much later, he had gotten his degree from Hebrew University (his senior thesis being an economic study of the viability of a West Bank state) and was engaged to marry a beautiful sabra — Israeli-born — woman he had met while working in a bookstore.

Sami was not a man of divided loyalties. He knew who he was, a Palestinian with a Jordanian passport, son of a Muslim father and Jewish mother. He understood and empathized with both communities; he spoke calmly about the rage his people, men like his father, felt toward the Israeli occupier.

He felt the anguish of his people, the Jews who in their lifetime had known the Holocaust and the struggle to build a Jewish state. He accepted them both, perhaps too naively. He once took his Hebrew University degree and crossed into Jordan, where he applied for a civil-service job. They looked at his Jordanian passport and Israeli degree in disbelief. Are you crazy? they asked. Sami just wanted a job.

Neither was there a place for a Palestinian — even if he was a Jew under Judaic law and the son of a refugee from Nazi Germany — in the Israel of Menachem Begin, Ariel Sharon and Yitzak Shamir. Sami wanted to live in Jerusalem and wanted to be accepted by both communities.

I remember his taking my wife and me to a folklore festival at Hebrew University sponsored by a Palestininian student group. We watched as he walked up to a student standing at the entrance to the auditorium and asked in Arabic what was going on. The Palestinian looked at him suspiciously and asked why he wanted to attend. "But I am a brother, a Palestinian," Sami said. The student walked away.

Remembering Sami, who understood so much about this conflict, reminds me of how little we Americans understand what we are doing in that part of the world. I wager he ended up in America, the refuge of so many Arabs, and so many Israelis, who know the sickness of spirit that has spread across the Middle East. I hope he has found a life.

The writer is the son of a U.S. Foreign Service officer. He contributed this comment to The Washington Post.

It Simply Isn't Right to Have No Regrets

By John C. Ausland

OSLO — Something is missing in the Gulf war victory celebrations. Americans are rightfully proud of the performance of their armed forces, particularly since they suffered so few casualties. But what of the Iraqis who perished? President George Bush keeps reminding us that we had no quarrel with the Iraqi people, only with Saddam Hussein. But I have not heard any great outpouring of regret over the many Iraqis who died.

We will never know just how many Iraqis died. Saddam Hussein surely has nothing to gain by adding knowledge of these numbers to his other crimes. Reacting to Defense Secretary Robert McNamara's bizarre obsession with statistics during the Vietnam War, General Norman Schwarzkopf insisted that he would never preside over a "body count."

The U.S. Air Force reportedly dropped about 88,500 tons of bombs on Iraq and Kuwait. If you add the bombs that the other air forces dropped, the total must have reached at least 100,000. It is a dry statistic, but what could it have been like to be on the receiving end of such tonnage? My mind drifts back to 1944 . . .

After the 4th Infantry Division landed on D-Day and secured the port of Cherbourg, it moved south to Normandy's hedgerow country.

Following heavy fighting, we arrived at a road that ran west from the town of Saint-Lô. On July 25, 1944, we pulled back a thousand yards, and wave after wave of aircraft coming from England, some 3,000 planes in all, flew over us and dropped their bombs.

But the wind was from the south, and the bomb dust blew back over us. Unable to see the road that was the bomb line, the planes began dropping their bombs on us. As I walked down a country lane, I could hear the thunder of the bombardment. Gradually the explosions came nearer, until suddenly there were terrifying eruptions all around. The air was filled with smoke and debris. Fortunately, the dense hedgerows on each side of the lane — not simply shrubbery but trees growing out of walls of earth — saved me.

Air controllers on the ground soon stopped this bombing, but not before it had killed a number of people. These included Lieutenant General Leslie McNair, commander of American ground forces, who was visiting a headquarters some distance behind me.

Since most of the bombs from those 3,000 aircraft fell within an area of about two square miles (five square kilometers), I leave to your imagination the mental condition of the Germans who survived the bombing and the subsequent artillery bombardment. Even nearly a half century later, it is not easy for me to talk about this experience without crying.

Although the air assault on Iraq and Kuwait was not as concentrated as that in Normandy, it must have been a nightmare. An appalling number surely were killed and wounded.

A U.S. military official has estimated the number of Iraqi troops killed at 100,000, as much as a quarter of these in ground combat (*IHT, March 23*). This is probably an underestimation. And it does not clearly deal with the question of civilian deaths.

Thus, we should keep in mind that the small number of American dead had a price, even if it was justified in order to hold down U.S. and allied casualties. If that price had been paid only by Saddam Hussein, his henchmen, and those Iraqis who supported him, I would have no regret. But it seems clear that most of those killed were innocent victims of a tragic war.

International Herald Tribune.

GENERAL NEWS

Ruling Party Wins in South Korean Vote

By David E. Sanger
New York Times Service

SEOUL — In a resounding victory, the ruling party of President Roh Tae Woo won more than half the seats in the country's first local elections in three decades, according to final returns Wednesday.

The election Tuesday was the first in a series designed to return some measure of local autonomy to South Korea's cities and towns after decades of military rule, in which virtually every decision has been made by central government officials.

But it was also the initial test of Mr. Roh's yearold Democratic Liberal Party, an uneasy coalition between the president and two of his three biggest political rivals.

The results announced Wednesday seemed to mark a setback for South Korea's best-known opposition leader, Kim Dae Jung. Mr. Kim, who lost the presidency to Mr. Roh in a three-way election in 1987, was counting on the election to build a political base for the next presidential contest, expected late next year or early in 1993. But his party won only about 18 percent of the local council posts, and the huge majority of those were in his home province of Cholla in the *southern part of the country.*

The elections were part of South Korea's slow return in recent years to democratically elected governments, after two and a half decades of military rule.

Three years ago, there were violent street demonstrations to demand democratization and a bigger say in local affairs. But surpisingly few Koreans turned out for the election itself. Officials said that only about 55 percent of eligible votes actually cast ballots, far fewer than the 89 percent who voted in the presidential election in December 1987 that brought Mr. Roh to power.

Technically, political parties were banned from the election. But the affiliations of most of the candidates were well known. Leaders of Mr. Roh's party said that if independent candidates who have historically leaned toward the ruling camp were included in the count, the Democratic Liberals would control more than 70 percent of the country's local council seats, whose members are expected to be influential in dispensing patronage, granting favors and collecting campaign money.

But political analysts, noting that a series of bribery scandals have left much of the electorate angry at both the ruling and opposition parties, say the results should not be seen as an assurance of future victories by Mr. Roh.

"It is premature for the DLP to be confident that the results will continue into the next election," said Park Chwoonho, a professor of law at Korea University. "This election involved not national issues, but more nonpolitical issues involving local interest groups."

HIJACK: *Knives Permitted*

(Continued from page 1)

was aboard, Tony Stevens, said the hijackers carried two knives, one with a blade 7 to 12 inches (about 18 to 30 centimeters) long and the other "like a Swiss Army penknife."

He said that at one point they poured cognac and other liquor from the aircraft service sections onto passenger seats and threatened to set them afire.

Another passenger, Michael Strong, who represents a Canadian government agency that promotes investment with Malaysia, said one of the nastiest moments of the eight hours came when the hijackers threatened to kill a passenger every 10 minutes after being told they could not contact the prime minister of Pakistan.

He said two male cabin attendants were kicked and shoved to the front of the plane before being pushed out of the aircraft door onto the tarmac, about six meters (about 20 feet) below. The attendants suffered minor injuries, officials said.

Mr. Strong, who was in business class, said the hijackers then took an American passenger and threatened to kill him before throwing him out. But the man resisted and got into a violent struggle with the hijacker, who was armed with a large knife.

Mr. Strong said the struggle ended when the Pakistani who acted as the leader of the group pulled his colleague away from the American, who was then left alone.

Those aboard included 55 Malaysians, 21 Singaporeans, 12 Japanese, 4 U.S. nationals and others from Britain, Australia, Canada and France.

Shunmugam Jayakumar, Singapore's minister for home affairs, said the primary consideration in the operation was the safety of the passengers and crew.

In Kuala Lumpur, Zolkipli Abdul, Malaysia's top airport-security official, said passengers were permitted to carry knives with blades less than four inches long, Reuters reported.

But Western aviation and airline officials said that even if this were permissible under the standards and recommended practices of the International Civil Aviation Organization, most airlines and regulators insisted that passengers not be allowed to carry knives.

They said this practice had been tightly enforced since the Gulf war sparked fears of terrorist attacks against airlines.

Bhutto, Asleep, Unavailable to Hijackers

United Press International

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — A servant of former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto told Singaporean officials that she was asleep and could not be disturbed when they called Wednesday to convey an offer from four Pakistani hijackers to surrender if she spoke with them.

Hours later, commandos stormed the Singapore Airlines plane that was hijacked late Tuesday during a flight from Kuala Lumpur to Singapore. The commandos killed the hijackers and freed all hostages unharmed.

The hijackers had demanded freedom for nine prisoners in Pakistan, including Miss Bhutto's husband.

Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said Wednesday that Pakistan had been informed of the hijacking at 11 P.M. Tuesday.

An hour and a half later, the government got a message from officials in Singapore that the hijackers said they would surrender if Miss Bhutto spoke to them. At the time, Mr. Khan said, she was at her home in Larkana in the southern province of Sind.

"We received another message at 2 A.M. that the Singapore government would like to put her in touch with the hijackers," he said. "By then we had traced her number at her residence in Larkana, where she was sleeping, and gave this number to the government of Singapore."

Mr. Khan said that Singapore called Miss Bhutto, but that a servant said she was sleeping and he could not wake her. "They tried to tell the servant who they were and what they wanted, but he said, 'Come what may, we will not wake her up,' " the foreign minister said.

Frustrated, Singapore "phoned us back and sought our advice," Mr. Khan said. "We decided to send a government functionary, the deputy commissioner of Larkana, to her residence. But by the time he arrived at her residence the hijacking was over and the hijackers had been killed."

There was no immediate comment from Miss Bhutto on the attempts to contact her.

MAFIA: *It's Spring-Time in Sicily*

(Confimed from page 1)

Palace of Justice has been stripped of two experienced men.

But many feel that the worst blow is the recent turnstile nature of criminal justice at Ucciardone Prison.

It has sapped public confidence in the system, they say. "There is no greater danger to democracy than a loss of faith in public institutions," Mr. Ayala said.

The release of prisoners involved men who had been jailed during a shining moment for Judge Falcone and his staff: the largest Mafia trial in history, in which 338 of 452 defendants were convicted in 1987 of running a criminal empire financed by heroin trafficking to the United States.

Life sentences were ordered for 19 men, including Michele Greco — prolific reader of the Bible, devotee of St. Thomas Aquinas, cultivator of orange groves and, if the Italian authorities have it right, supreme Mafia lord, responsible for ordering 78 murders.

Judge Falcone denounced the ruling as "an incomprehensible and sensational mistake," and government leaders agreed. They rushed through a decree ordering Mr. Greco and company back into Ucciardone while Parliament considered a new method of calculating their prison time.

Legal experts say these men may soon be back on the streets anyway because the tortuous appeals process will inevitably drag on.

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HEALTH / SCIENCE

HEALTH Q&A

I am a recently retired British businessman who loves to travel. Unfortunately, I have chronic heart trouble. How shall I proceed?

The first step would be to confer with your doctor, describing your journey, including the itinerary, destinations, length of stay, season, possible adjustments in medication dosages and so on. Secondly, you might want to consider signing up with a medical data service, as doing so can make traveling with either *chronic* diseases (such as diabetes mellitus or heart disease) or *acute* diseases (such as insect or drug allergies) much simpler and less worrisome. The most recognized worldwide is Medic-Alert International (telephones: in Britain, 071-499-2261; United States, 209-668-3333).

□

As I must travel regularly on business from Germany to western South America, including Peru and Bolivia, I am worried by the cholera outbreak there.

Cholera, a severely dehydrating disease, is caused by a toxin produced by the bacteria Vibrio cholerae. It can be fatal within as little as 10 hours after the initial symptoms unless aggressive rehydration is instituted.

The risk of contracting cholera has been estimated at one case in 500,000 travelers returning from cholera-endemic areas. As the organism is acid-sensitive, persons having reduced stomach acid production (such as gastric-bypass patients) or those with immuno-suppression are at increased risk.

The vaccine (2 shots optimally given 4 weeks apart) is reported to reduce the incidence of disease by 50 percent for three to six months, but will not prevent intestinal colonization or spread of the infection.

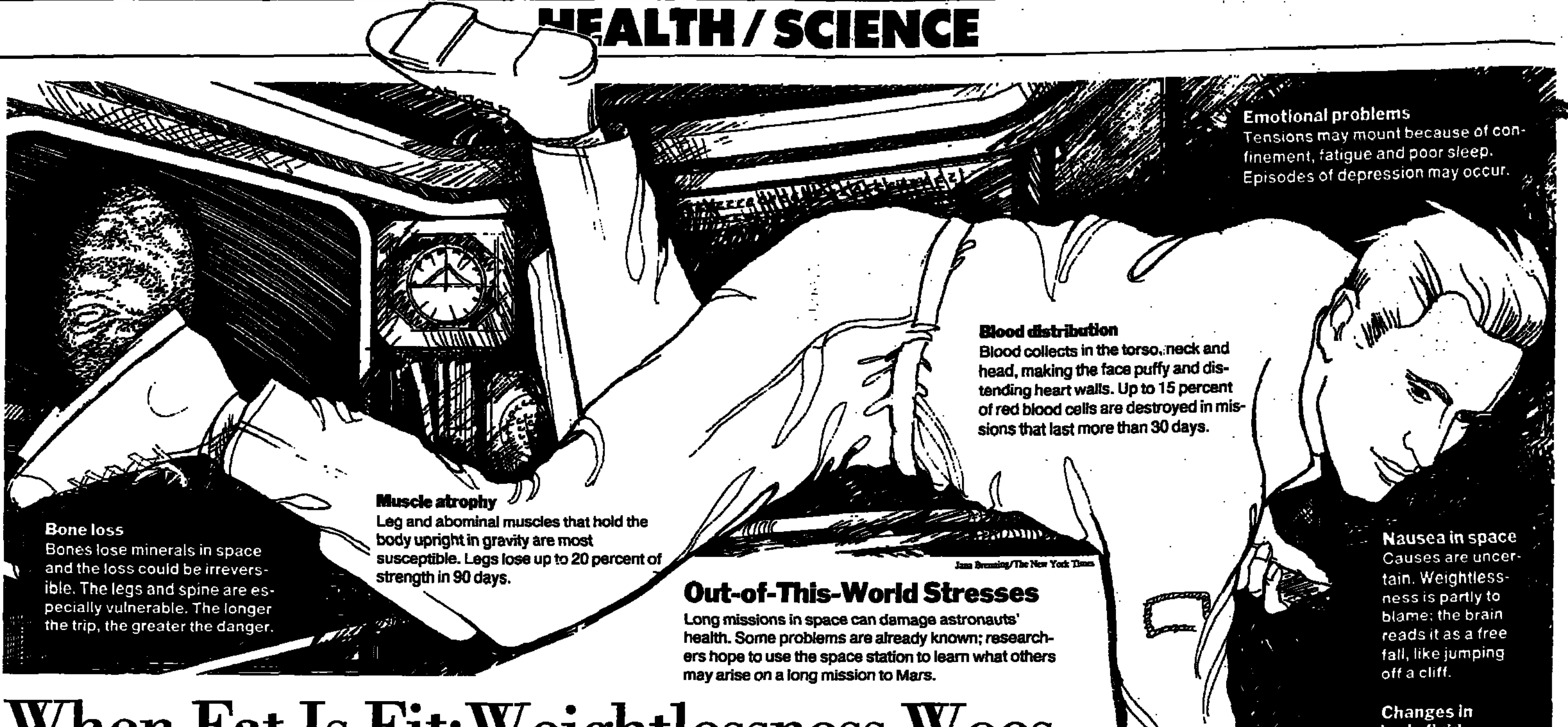
□

I am confused by the proliferation of reports of fetal tissue research worldwide. Is it necessary and are regulatory agencies set up in the countries where the research takes place?

Scientific experimenting with fetal tissue is reported to be of great potential benefit to sufferers of diabetes mellitus, Alzheimer's disease and Parkinson's disease. Its scientific utility stems from its quick growth, and in transplantation contexts it is better tolerated than other tissues.

According to Harvard's department of obstetrics and gynecology, guidelines for this type of research exist in most developed countries.

Michael McGannon, M.D., will answer questions from readers every other Thursday. Please write to him at the International Herald Tribune, 181 Avenue Charles de Gaulle, F-92521 Neuilly, France.


Bone loss
Bones lose minerals in space and the loss could be irreversible. The legs and spine are especially vulnerable. The longer the trip, the greater the danger.
Muscle atrophy
Leg and abominal muscles that hold the body upright in gravity are most susceptible. Legs lose up to 20 percent of strength in 90 days.
Blood distribution
Blood collects in the torso, neck and head, making the face puffy and distending heart walls. Up to 15 percent of red blood cells are destroyed in missions that last more than 30 days.
Emotional problems
Tensions may mount because of confinement, fatigue and poor sleep. Episodes of depression may occur.
Nausea in space
Causes are uncertain. Weightlessness is partly to blame; the brain reads it as a free fall, like jumping off a cliff.
Changes in body fluids
There may be loss of salts and intracellular fluids and changes in blood chemistry and volume. It usually takes about four days in gravity to get rid of excess body fluids.
Sources: National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences; The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Space (Cambridge)

Jane Brenning/The New York Times

Out-of-This-World Stresses

Long missions in space can damage astronauts' health. Some problems are already known; researchers hope to use the space station to learn what others may arise on a long mission to Mars.

When Fat Is Fit: Weightlessness Woes

By William J. Broad
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — A little-known story of the space age, untold by laconic astronauts schooled to set aside emotion and play down danger, is just how bad weightlessness can be.

While logging more than 50,000 hours in space over three decades, American astronauts have suffered nausea, anemia, lethargy, loss of appetite, headaches, disorientation, motion sickness, heart palpitations, fatigue, depression, weakened defenses against infectious disease and a loss of blood volume, muscle mass and bone.

Such problems are expected to worsen as astronauts venture farther from Earth for longer periods of time, especially on an expedition to Mars the Bush administration envisions for early in the 21st century.

Studying and combating such biological breakdowns is a key rationale for NASA's planned space station, a cut-down version of which was officially unveiled last week. In many respects, the $30 billion outpost is still palatial.

Yet prominent scientists say the National Aeronautics and Space Administration has skimped on such crucial items as research equipment to study the debilitating effects of weightlessness adequately, making the station more of a political showpiece than a research tool. The structure is to be lofted piecemeal by the space shuttle in the middle to late 1990s.

The debate is particularly bitter because life science research is one of the last scientific aims for the station, which today is far less ambitious than when first proposed seven years ago.

Gone are plans to study the stars, to observe the Earth, to fix satellites, to fuel rockets, and to serve as a staging area for manned expeditions into the solar system.

Aside from biology studies, the only remaining science goal is to see if weightlessness can aid such research as growing exceptionally pure crystals.

The dispute erupted publicly when, even before the new design was unveiled, a panel of the National Research Council said that life sciences planning for the revamped station was riddled with flaws, concluding that the outpost "cannot be supported" on scientific grounds.

"We don't know if a mission to Mars is feasible," Dr. Louis J. Lanserotti, the panel's chairman, said in an interview. "There are big uncertainties that we need to start addressing seriously."

Dr. William B. Lenoir, associate administrator for space flight at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, last week rejected the criticism as misguided and parochial, telling reporters that the science group had "never been a large fan" of the orbiting outpost.

Yet other experts agree with the panel's criticism, saying that nothing less than the fate of the American space program is at stake.

"The station must be cost effective and functional for specific technical purposes," said Dr. Bruce Murray, a former director of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory who is now a planetary scientist at the California Institute of Technology. "If not, it will destroy our future space efforts, just as the shuttle monopoly squandered the leadership that had been established by the Apollo program" to put Americans on the Moon.

Despite the steely eyed pose of NASA astronauts, the less attractive aspects of weightlessness occasionally emerge.

Last year a Japanese television reporter aboard the Soviet space station Mir spent a lot of time describing the details of space sickness and complained that his brain was "floating around in my head."

When Senator Jake Garn flew aboard the shuttle in 1985, he was reduced to curling up in a corner and feeling very ill.

Enigmas abound. After a 1989 shuttle flight, eight chicken embryos were found unexpectedly to have died. Colonel John E. Blaha of the Air Force, the mission's pilot, called the deaths "a great mystery."

So great are the uncertainties that new research suggests that the usual tactic of trying to make astronauts super-fit athletes may be wrong. Out-of-shape slovens, it turns out, hold up better in motion sickness tests where people are tumbled head-over-heels in pitch darkness.

"If you are grossly obese, we cannot get you sick," said Dr. Bob S. K. Cheung, a physiologist at the Canadian Defense and Civil Institute of Environmental Medicine in Toronto who studies astronaut adaption to weightlessness.

For years, one of the great biological mysteries of the space age was the ineffectiveness of oral drugs to fight motion sickness among astronauts in orbit.

"We didn't understand until recently that the medication wasn't being absorbed in body in the same way as on the ground," said Dr. Carolyn L. Huntoon, director of the space life sciences directorate at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston. Now, the drugs are injected instead.

Any agenda for the expansion of research in space biology features one item above all others — a large centrifuge that can be hauled into orbit and periodically filled with plants and animals and even humans. The spinning device would be used to create artificial gravity, much as a rotating amusement park rides does when it presses screaming people into its walls.

Almost from the start, NASA architects planned on furnishing the station with a large centrifuge, one big enough for humans.

It was to be 13 feet in diameter and have a chair in which astronauts would be strapped for relatively short periods of time. Then, the station underwent redesigns that forced size cuts in the centrifuge and eliminated the prospect of human testing.

Yet, for the moment, plans for any centrifuge at all have been dropped from the recent station redesign, despite the seeming high priority of biology studies.

Last week Dr. Lenoir of NASA headquarters defended the agency's current plan, saying his staff was still trying to find a place for a centrifuge on the slimmed-down station.

Among the options, he said, was to put it in the laboratory of one of the station's international partners, perhaps with the Japanese. Another is to put it inside a module that could be added to the station after its construction was completed around the turn of the century.

Some proponents of deep-space missions have argued that an experimental station in low-earth orbit should not be spatially fixed in relation to itself, as the NASA one is, but should have a freely rotating section, perhaps on long tethers, to better test the feasibility of artificial gravity for astronauts on long-duration voyages of discovery.

"If you were starting with a clean piece of paper, that's certainly the direction you'd go," said Dr. Thomas O. Paine, NASA's administrator during the moon landings. "Engineers in the 21st century are going to need that kind of data to design Mars ships."

MARCH 1991

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The Language of Deaf Babies

By Natalie Angier
New York Times Service

Gesturing Toward Language
One sequence of handshapes used by deaf babies who have been exposed to sign language. The gestures are like syllables and are repeated over and over.
Source: Dr. Laura Ann Petitto

The New York Times

NEW YORK — Deaf babies of deaf parents babble with their hands in the same rhythmic, repetitive fashion that hearing infants babble vocally, a study has found. The deaf babies, who presumably watch their parents use sign language at home, start their manual babbles before they are 10 months old, the same age that hearing children begin stringing together sounds into word-like units.

And just as hearing babies experiment with a few key noises like "dadadada" or "babababa," so deaf infants use several motions over and over, including one gesture that resembles a hand symbol of the numeral 1. The gestures of the deaf children do not have real meaning, any more than babble noises have meaning, but they are far more systematic and deliberate than are the random finger flutters and fist clenches of hearing babies.

The motions seem to be the deaf babies' fledgling attempts to master language, said Dr. Laura Ann Petitto, a psychologist at McGill University in Montreal. She is the principal author of the new report, which is in the journal Science.

The new research strongly suggests that the brain has an innate capacity to learn language in a particular, stepwise fashion, by stringing together units into what eventually become meaningful words, Dr. Petitto said. The brain will progress from one stage to another regardless of whether language is conveyed through speaking, handsigning, or presumably any other method of communication.

The results contradict a widespread assumption among linguists that the maturation of the vocal cords affects language development among infants.

"For centuries, people thought that speech is language, and language is speech," she said. "There's been a whole complicated notion that the structure of the motor apparatus and the unfolding of the mouth muscles actually influenced the structure and development of language."

But in showing that deaf babies babble with their hands in a manner that has all the basic elements of vocal babbling, she said: "We've decoupled language from speech. We've torn them apart."

"I think this is important work," said Dr. Richard P. Meier, an assistant professor of linguistics and psychology at the University of Texas at Austin. "It's been suggested that all children pass through a regular sequence of milestones in speech acquisition, from simple cooing early on, to structured babbling at eight months, to the first word at about 12 months."

Dr. Petitto and her graduate student, Paula F. Marentette, videotaped five infants at ages 10, 12 and 14 months. Two of the infants were deaf children of deaf parents who use American Sign Language to communicate, while the other three were hearing offspring of hearing adults.

The researchers found that the hearing children made many hand gestures, but that the gestures never became organized or repetitive. By comparison, the deaf babies soon began showing evidence of using about 13 different hand motions over and over again. Nearly all of them were actual elements of American Sign Language: gestures that do not in themselves mean anything, but have the potential to indicate something when added to other gestures.

Sign languages are structured much like any spoken language, Dr. Petitto said. Distinct gestures and hand shapes are the equivalent of syllables, and thus must be presented in a series to assume any sense.

She believes that the deaf parents noticed the nascent efforts of their children to communicate through signs and began reinforcing the gestures, just as normal parents talk back to and reinforce their babbling infants by turning the babble into words, for example, by saying "dadadada . . . Daddy."

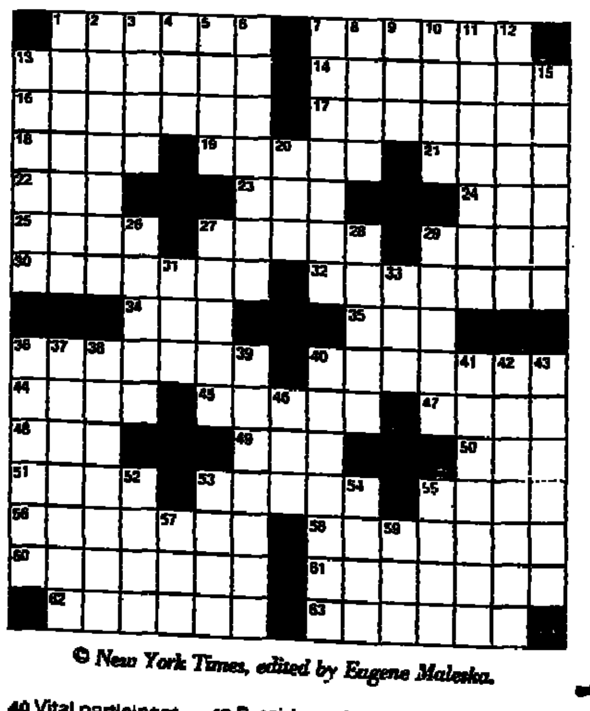
Dr. Petitto said that the new work also supported the theory that the basic rhythm of all languages was the same, building upon a pattern that alternates consonants and vowels. Although the analogy is only approximate in sign language, the deaf babies did alternate between mobile gestures, which are thought to be somewhat vowel-like in their rhythmicity, and static hand shapes, the rough equivalent of the consonant.

ACROSS

1 Put back on the market
7 Neb. river
13 More maudlin
14 Cow catchers
16 Whim
17 Footstool
18 Minor argument
19 Mrs. Bunker
21 Heroic tale
22 Turf
23 Capone weapon
24 Tirana money
25 "Woe is me!"
27 Fur-bearing carnivore
29 Nothing more than
30 Comedian Jerry and family
32 Topples a king
34 NOW aim
35 Realty unit
36 Romanian-born playwright
40 Of heat
44 Abandon
45 "King Olaf" composer
47 Opulent, in Oviedo
48 Freudian concerns
49 Morse-code word
50 Seaport in northeast It.
51 Clydesdale fodder
53 Comedian Ole ——
55 Painter Georges —— Tour
56 Name in a famed Supreme Court case
58 New Brunswick's river
60 Ignored insultingly
61 Noted
62 Viscous
63 Take into account

DOWN

1 "—— of the Bailey," TV mystery series
2 Swords, in Toledo
3 Close
4 Source of Abu Dhabi's wealth
5 —— majesté
6 Deepens a channel
7 Schemed
8 Slat
9 Frick content
10 Uruguayan uncles
11 Cantina fare
12 What-not
13 Church book
15 Krait and fer-de-lance
20 Actor McKellen
26 Immerse
27 Elegance of form
28 Of bodily tissue
29 Drive
31 Sounds of hesitation
33 Vet on the hustings
36 Characteristic styles
37 Decrees
38 Quack medicine
39 —— of Threadneedle St. (Bank of England)
40 Vital participant in wedding planning
41 Shipyard worker
42 Reykjavik's nation
43 President of Harvard: 1933-53
46 U.S. soldiers
52 "¿Quién —— ?"
53 ——-Neisse Line
54 Montague, e.g.
55 Actress Merrill
57 Pistons' org.
59 Tackle



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Solution to Previous Puzzle

N	E	W	E	R		S	L	O		D	R	A	M	A
E	N	A	C	T		E	O	N		E	U	R	U	S
O	N	T	H	E	W	A	T	E	R	F	R	O	N	T
N	A	T	O		A	M	U	S	E	R		D	I	A
				I	V	E	S		P	A	C			
S	M	A	R	T	E	N		P	A	Y	A	B	L	E
L	A	R	E	S			G	A	S		V	O	I	R
O	L	D	M	A	N	A	N	D	T	H	E	S	E	A
S	T	O	A		A	M	P			O	R	C	U	S
H	A	R	D	E	S	T		C	O	N	N	O	T	E
			E	N	S		R	I	M	E				
S	U	P		D	A	M	A	G	E		T	R	E	E
T	H	E	F	O	U	N	T	A	I	N	H	E	A	D
A	L	L	O	W		O	A	R		N	A	I	V	E
B	E	E	R	S		P	L	S		W	I	D	E	N

There are times when you wish that words were more than... well, words.

Right now, for instance, as we search for the right words to salute you, the 741,842 men and women of the allied forces who served in the Gulf War. And all the military, the families and friends who strongly supported you from around the world.

But nothing seems adequate in honoring what you have just accomplished. Although we'll give it a start, with just two words.

Thank you.

AT&T

NYSE

Wednesday's Closing

Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. *Via The Associated Press*

12 Month High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	Sls 100s	High	Low	4 P.M.	Ch'ge
		A								
20¼	9¼	AAR	.48	3.3	14	306	14⅝	14⅜	14½	—⅛
9⅝	7¾	ACM n	1.02e	11.3	—	224	9⅛	9	9⅛	—
11⅛	8¾	ACMIn	1.26	11.5	—	1042	11	10⅞	11	+⅛
8¼	6½	ACM M n	1.01	12.6	—	819	8⅛	8	8	—⅛
12⅝	10	ACMMM	1.50	12.0	—	91	12½	12⅜	12½	+⅛
10⅝	8⅜	ACM Sc	1.26	12.1	—	1045	10⅜	10¼	10⅜	—
9	7¼	ACMSp	1.01	11.4	—	873	9	8⅞	8⅞	—
28⅝	17	AL Lab	.16	.6	20	736	26	25½	25¾	+⅛
3⅝	1	AM Intl	—	—	—	396	1⅞	1⅝	1⅝	—⅛
16⅞	3⅝	AM In pf	2.00	19.3	—	49	10⅜	10⅛	10⅜	—
10½	8⅝	AMEVSc	1.05a	10.8	—	14	9⅞	9¾	9¾	—
70¼	39⅞	AMR	—	—	—	7095	59½	58⅝	59⅜	+1
44⅛	29⅛	ARCOCh	2.50	6.2	13	797	40½	38⅛	40½	+2⅛
4	1⅛	ARX	—	—	—	161	2⅛	1⅞	2	—
56¼	38¼	ASA	3.00	6.8	—	1646	44	43⅝	44	—⅛
4	1⅞	ATTC wt	—	—	—	2102	4	3⅞	4	+¼
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

(Continued on Page 14)

NYSE Highs-Lows

NEW HIGHS 144

AbbottLab s, AllnfTech n, AydinCp, BankAm adj p, BectonDick, Broadinc, CenteriorEn, ColnFds, ConAgra, E System, Entergy, FstFidBc, FredHaly, GnMotrE pr, Heinz, IllPw 478pf, IntpubGp, KaufBdHm, Kroger, LIL Co pfI, McDonld, MetropFn pf, Muellerind n, NIM 1868pf, OldRepInt, PacGE, PhEl 950pf, QMS Inc, RaymdJames, RohmHaas, Schwitzr, StrideRte, Texln 208pf, USX adj pf, VarianAsc, VansCos, WiscEngy

Acuson s, Amesplnt n, BancOne, BauschLmb, BlockHR, CML Gp, Chilli's s, Comdrelnt, Conseco, Edwards, FabriCtr s, FtFidBcp pfB, GATX Cp pf, Gulf StaUt, HerculesInc, Imcera, JohnsJhn, Kellogg, LandsEnd, ManorCare, MerilLyn, MinnPL, NatMedEn, NiMo 772pf, OmnicomGp, PaineWebr, PhEl 950pf, QuakerOat, Raytheon, StJosLP, ServMerch, SunTrust, Thiokol n, UtdDomin, VentStor n, WalMart s, XTRA pf

Albertsons s, Angelica, BancTexas, Baxter, BristMySq, CUC Intl s, Christiana, CwE 142pf, CooperTire s, EmraMex n, FamDlrSt, FstWachov, GTE Fla 816, HQ Hlth, HewlettPk, IntcaIns n, K Mart, Keycorp, LibtyAllSt, MarshMcl, MerryGoRo, MorgnSt, NewEngElc, Norwest, Orange Rk, Pfizer, Prefdlnco n, RAC Inco, RiteAid, SaraLee s, SoulndGE, Syntex, Torchmark, US Surg s, Vivra s, WellsF adj p

AllnCapMtg, Avon Prod, BankAmer, BearStearns, BrstMySq pf, CapitlHld, Chubb s, Comput Sci, DeltaWood, Ensrch adj p, FstChi adj p, FrnklnRsc, G Housewar, HlthsthRehab, HomeDepot s, IntMultifds, KCPL 435pf, KimbClark, LincNlFd, MartMar, MetropFn, MortonIntl, NewPlanRlt, OakwdHm s, OrionCap, Pfizer wi, PSvCol 715p, RalstnPur s, RockCentr, SovinCp, Stanhome, Textron, TrnsatlHld n, ValeroEnr, ValunCap, Wendys

NEW LOWS 4

EastnUtil, LVI wi, LaidlowA, MesaRoyt

AMEX Highs-Lows

NEW HIGHS 48

AmMaize A, AmTr-hwp prm, BergstrmCap, CapitlHous n, Epitope n, FoundHlt n, HooperHlm, IntlMur, PGE 196pfM, ResoTech, SierraHlth, Teleflex

AmTr-bmy sc, AmTr-inl sc, BioRad B, Canditron, Etz Lavud, GenovDrg, ICH Co, IvaxCp s, PallCp s, RiserFood, SpogWare s, TubosMex

AmTr-chv un, AmTr-s un, CandaWineA, DRCA Med, FtEmakrSt, GrahamFld, ICH pf, MichaelStr, Quebecor s, Sbarro, TRC Cos, UtilCare s

AmTr-os prm, Amerhlth, CandaWneB, Elan un, ForestLab s, HallyCp, IncstarCp, Newcor, Raven, Servotron, Tejas n, WstnEna n

NEW LOWS 4

ChilesOffsh, EZ Serv n, SC Bcp n, SierCap8 n

INTERNATIONAL MANAGER

Recruiters Are Moving Into Outplacement Field

By Elizabeth M. Fowler
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Confusion, growing competition and even financial problems abound in two career-oriented service businesses, management recruiting and outplacement. This affects another group, management consulting. Russell Reynolds Inc. and Korn/Ferry International, large management-recruiting concerns, have cut staffs because of the hiring downturn.

Korn/Ferry, among others, has announced broader services such as a new unit to provide executive compensation advice, which takes it into fierce competition with management consultants that specialize in human-resource planning, like Hewitt Associates and Towers Perrin.

At the same time, outplacement concerns say business is good but complain about rising expenses because it takes much longer for displaced managers to find jobs — eight months reported by some compared with six months last year and a mere three months or less during prosperous years in the 1980s. That means increased costs for counseling, office space and clerical help.

Some firms are in for a rude awakening financially.

Even so, some recruiters hungrily eye the outplacement field, and more and more — like the Winchester Group, in San Mateo, California, and People Management Northeast, in Simsbury, Connecticut — have already entered it.

"The associations for both groups see it as conflict of interest; I see it as an apparent conflict and I vote for purity," James H. Kennedy said last week. A perennial critic, he is the publisher of newsletters and directories on outplacement, recruiting and management consulting.

"Let's see where the conflict is," he added. "There might be double-dipping for fees if an outplaced person is placed in a job through the management recruiting arm of a firm. Some say, 'We don't put the scoop in all the way — we take a reduced fee.'"

JANET JONES-PARKER, former executive director of the Association of Executive Search Consultants Inc., recently joined A. T. Kearney Inc., better known as a management-consulting concern, in its management-recruiting unit in Stamford, Connecticut.

She agrees with Mr. Kennedy. "I don't think firms can do both activities well because executive search is so specialized," she said. She added that the earnings decline of many recruiting concerns could be attributed partly to being "locked into a high overhead if they operate in cities like New York."

"My strategy for a search firm," she said, "would be to have a few strong business generators in New York, where rents are high — four or five at a maximum, who can bring in $500,000 in fees yearly, and more offices elsewhere."

Search fees run about 33 percent of a recruited executive's pay, or $33,000 for a $100,000-a-year and $82,500 for a $250,000-a-year executive. Fees are paid by companies.

Robert M. Hecht of Lee Hecht Harrison, a large outplacement concern, agrees that more and more recruiting firms are expanding into outplacement, but he believes they are in for "a rude awakening" financially. Outplacement fees run only about 15 percent of the displaced person's salary.

"They claim the two functions never overlap," he said, "but I am not so sure that is true or that it is even desirable to operate in both areas. I am not sure that a management-recruiting boutique that specializes has the resources to hire the right people for effective outplacement."

"We are in a different business," he added. "Outplacement counselors must have a different mental set. The amount of time, effort and caring attitude involved is monumental. We are continually racing against a psychic clock ticking away an outplaced client's individual esteem and his relations with family. There is trauma involved and we have to provide crisis intervention."

Profit Growth Slows At Deutsche Bank

9.7% Gain Reflects Expansion Costs

By Richard E. Smith
International Herald Tribune

FRANKFURT — Deutsche Bank AG, Germany's largest bank, said Wednesday that it suffered a slowdown in operating profit growth last year due to sharp drops in securities markets in the wake of the Gulf crisis and to its expensive expansion into eastern Germany.

The bank posted a 9.7 percent rise in group operating profit, to 5.13 billion Deutsche marks ($3.05 billion at current rates) in 1990, down from a growth rate of 23 percent in 1989.

Hilmar Kopper, the bank's chief executive, said at a press conference that German unification was the "most significant influence" for the bank in 1990, and a board member, Ulrich Cartellieri, used the occasion to take issue with "the daily flood of mostly negative news" about the area.

"We consider this to be wrong," he said. "High private and public investment could provide for a growth rate of at least 10 percent already next year."

Despite such optimism and the fact that the bank has opened 156 units in eastern Germany with 8,500 full-time employees, Mr. Kopper said that these operations are not yet profitable and had been a major factor in "markedly" higher staff and operating expenses.

Many institutes, including Deutsche Bank, believe eastern Germany will remain under pressure this year and may suffer a drop in the economy of about 15 percent.

Singling out key features in its profit performance, the bank noted that securities trading for its own account had been badly hit in the second half of 1990, when markets were jostled by the Gulf war. The parent bank was required to write off 161 million DM in losses in shares and 42 million DM for losses in bonds, while profits on securities trading dipped 28 percent to 600 million DM.

The losses were more than counteracted by net interest income, however, in which the parent posted a record increase of 20 percent to 6.4 billion DM in line with a strong increase in business volume and stable interest margins.

In contrast to more modest overall profit growth, the bank's business volume surged by a robust 16 percent to 404.7 billion DM, due to a strong increase in foreign business, the opening of branches in eastern Germany and the first-time consolidation of the Morgan Grenfell group of Britain.

The bank also took a number of steps to gird itself against a difficult economic environment marked by worsening debt risks in parts of the Third World and notably by uncertainties about the Soviet Union.

Mr. Kopper said that loan-loss provisions were significantly higher in 1990 than in 1989 and that provisions were in place for 59 problem countries, eight more than in 1989. Management would not comment on its specific exposure to risk in the Soviet Union, but said that it was "proportionately less" than at other major banks.

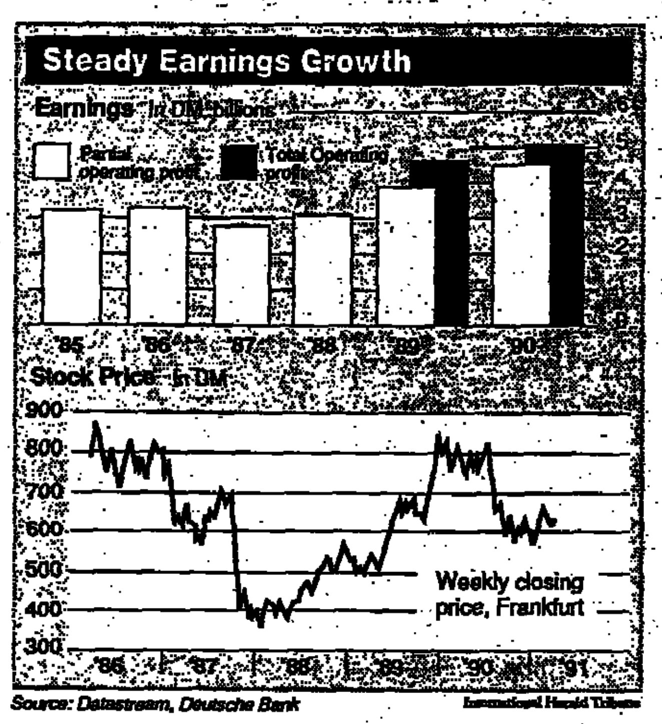
"The broad picture that emerges is that they have done as much as possible to stock up provisions and have set an ambitious benchmark for other banks in Europe," said Thomas Albrecht, banking analyst at UBS/Phillips & Drew in London.

Mr. Kopper said that the parent bank's capital and reserves totaled 15.5 billion DM at the end of 1990, giving it an equity ratio of 6.1 percent. He claimed that this is approximately two percentage points higher than the average for all German banks.

"Against this background, we

See DEUTSCHE, Page 13

Steady Earnings Growth



Source: Datastream, Deutsche Bank — International Herald Tribune

Dollar Surges As Waigel Says Rate Is 'O.K.'

By Lawrence Malkin
International Herald Tribune

NEW YORK — The flight from the mark into the dollar was accelerated Wednesday by Germany's finance minister, who said the declining mark didn't matter much to him, and then was checked by the U.S. Treasury's chief international official, who said it did.

The dollar touched 1.7170 Deutsche marks in New York, the highest level in a year, and then fell back a pfennig on profit-taking.

After a relentless rise of 25 pfennig in less than a month, many traders expect the dollar to correct itself and drop back slightly.

Bill Bertha, chief dealer of Mellon Bank, said the rise was "overdone a bit." With trading thin ahead of the Easter holiday this weekend and the end of the Japanese fiscal year March 31, the dollar could seesaw between 1.62 DM and 1.74 DM.

Brendan Brown, chief strategist at Mitsubishi International Finance in London, expects German interest rates to rise soon and strengthen the mark. Françoise Soares-Kemp of Crédit Suisse in New York predicted that big dollar holders who bought cheaply last month would sell and take their profits.

With most forecasters not expecting the U.S. economy to climb out of recession before the summer, the dollar's sudden rise has taken operators on this side of the Atlantic by surprise. Less so in Europe, where the trend seems to have started as soon as investors sensed an early victory in the Gulf war.

What is really happening in the currency markets, said Nicholas Sargen, international economist at Salomon Brothers, is that investment managers have made "a reappraisal of Germany."

During the last quarter of 1990, when war jitters and worries about U.S. banks dominated markets, foreigners bought $18.7 billion in German securities — more than during the euphoric three months when the Berlin Wall came down.

But in this quarter, Mr. Sargen said investors have begun dumping Deutsche mark paper for dollars as the Germans started counting the costs of reunification, uncertainty in the Soviet Union raised a threat to potential German markets in Eastern Europe, and Germany's usually orderly financial management showed signs of disarray.

Financial markets got a vivid display of that when Finance Minister Theo Waigel returned from Washington and said "the mark is at an O.K. level," and that "both sides can live with" current rates.

Financial analysts were mystified by the motive for his remarks, which came on the same day that the Bundesbank led concerted intervention against the dollar. Analysts assumed Mr. Waigel was somehow trying to pressure the Bundesbank not to raise interest rates during the current national wage negotiations.

Foreign-exchange dealers were not impressed. Ms. Soares-Kemp described "the big-time rift" between the government in Bonn and the central bank in Frankfurt as "both frightening and amusing."

Mr. Waigel's remarks wiped out the effects of two small rounds of central-bank intervention that had attempted to hold the dollar to its

See DOLLAR, Page 12

Germany Pumps Cash Into Eastern Firms

Agence France-Presse

BERLIN — East German companies will get a fresh dose of financial help to keep running, the government agency charged with privatizing the companies announced Wednesday.

The new help comes at a time of deepening anxiety about the state of the eastern German economy.

"The restructuring of east Germany will not fail for lack of money," said the Treuhandanstalt president, Detlev Rohwedder.

The agency announced that companies in its control could indefinitely postpone repayment of government-backed loans incurred over the past year.

Loans totaling 19 billion Deutsche marks ($11.2 billion) have been made to Treuhandanstalt-controlled companies from private banks, under the protection of a government guarantee.

The guarantee was set to expire on March 31, effectively setting a deadline for the firms to repay the money. But a Treuhandanstalt spokesman said the guarantee was now being extended indefinitely.

The concession, analysts said, could provide a substantial short-term boost for eastern German firms that are struggling to compete in the free market and at the same time repay debts — accumulated both before and after the 1989 revolution — that now total around 100 billion DM.

The agency also said companies could seek "additional guarantees" to help their business, especially if the help concerned exports to the Soviet Union and other eastern European countries.

The guarantees will cover bridging loans, investment credit and export credit, it said. They will be granted "in individual cases" to firms that can prove their progress toward "privatization or rationalization," the agency said.

The decision, analysts said, would encourage the many eastern German firms that have been unable to develop Western-quality products and depend for business on traditional exports to eastern Europe.

Much of their trade has plummeted in recent months because trade now is conducted in hard currency instead of rubles, and because eastern German firms have been unable to get private guarantees for trade credits.

The government agency inherited 8,000 east German state firms 13 months ago, but is struggling to find private-sector buyers. Hundreds of concerns deemed a hopeless case have already been closed, causing unemployment to soar.

Mr. Rohwedder gave an insight into the catastrophic state of some of the 7,000 firms still in his charge.

He said at a press conference that the agency would pay out more than 5 billion DM this quarter alone to service the debt of Treuhandanstalt firms. An additional 2 billion DM would have to be set aside this year in indirect subsidies for the trade contracts with eastern Europe.

In a separate development, the European Community signed an agreement to grant $1.78 billion to develop eastern German industry and agriculture.

The money is part of a loan-and-grant package of more than $7 billion, to be allotted over the next three years.

EC to Curb 'Bullying' by Big Airlines

Reuters

BRUSSELS — European Community transport ministers agreed Wednesday to give the EC Commission greater powers to stop large airlines from elbowing out smaller competitors.

The Commission will be able to suspend at two days' notice fares or routes it suspects have been introduced for a short period to force a small competitor out of business, said the EC competition commissioner, Sir Leon Brittan.

"It's important that the Commission can be able to stop predatory practices through fares or other means," he said.

He also said the move was an essential complement to rules under which the EC's air transport market is being opened to greater competition by 1993.

"The lifeblood of a small airline can drain away very quickly. That's why speed is of the essence," said Sir Leon.

Japan Eases Food Curbs, but U.S. May Not Feast

By Teresa Watanabe
Los Angeles Times Service

CHIBA, Japan — On the last day of the Pacific Rim's largest food exhibition in this Tokyo suburb, a clearance sale of foreign beef was about to commence.

"Final sale! Final sale!" a Japanese salesman boomed, waving red steaks wrapped in plastic. Seven dollars a pound! Half the price of Japanese beef!

A crowd of Japanese consumers quickly gathered, elbowing each other in a discreet but determined surge to scoop up the deals. "Cheap, isn't it?" "Ah, looks good!" In 15 minutes, the pile of steaks was gone.

That scene underscored the tantalizing potential of the Japanese market when import quotas on foreign beef and citrus are removed on April 1, after years of U.S. pressure. Japan's 124 million people are among the richest in the world, yet can produce only 48 percent of their own food.

But the food fair scene also amplified the two-edged sword of Japan's liberalization for U.S. producers: The clearance-sale beef was not American. It was Australian. South Burnett Meat Works beef, to be precise. Marketed under the "Aussie Beef" campaign.

Indeed, some U.S. farmers argue that the opening of Japan's beef and citrus markets, and the potential opening of its rice markets, could backfire on Americans, at least in the short term. It was the U.S. government that led the way in prying open Japan's markets and braving the ensuing political firestorm. But it will be a host of new competitors around the world who will share in the benefits.

"I'd be the first to admit that the pressure brought by the U.S. government was certainly the paramount influence on the liberalization of this market," said Ralph Hood, chief executive of Australian Meat & Livestock Corp. in Tokyo. "Quite frankly, Australia does not have the trade clout the U.S. does."

"But we've been supportive of U.S. efforts," he said. "Now that we're in a competitive situation, it's incumbent on both of us to compete in the best way we can."

It will not be the first time that U.S. government actions benefited more than Americans. European and South Korean competitors, for instance, have scrambled to take advantage of the liberalized construction market negotiated by the Americans.

For U.S. producers, a primary concern is that import quotas were removed but steep tariffs on beef and oranges were not. The result, some fear, is that the tariffs will magnify the lower prices of other nations. At the same time, the lifting of quotas could erode the commanding U.S. market position, developed in part through intimate relationships with the Japanese who controlled the closed system.

"Just because the quotas are eliminated doesn't mean we're going to be able to sell more fruit," said Joel Nelsen, president of California Citrus Mutual, a trade association. "We're concerned in the short term that you're going to have products from South Africa, Australia, maybe even China."

Julian M. Alston, a professor in agricultural economics at University of California, Davis, argued that Japan and Australia may well benefit more from the beef reforms than the Americans.

"Under the managed-trade agreement, the Japanese were giving the U.S. more than their share of quotas," Mr. Alston said. "So the managed shares favored the U.S. The unmanaged shares wouldn't. We're saying that this could be ambiguous and go the wrong way."

Others emphatically disagree. U.S. officials in Tokyo predict that the Americans will be able to hang on to their dominant market shares. And the total market will expand, enriching U.S. and other foreign producers alike, they say.

In fact, the biggest adversaries of U.S. farmers may not be other foreigners; they may be the Japanese. Japanese groups affiliated with America's agricultural cooperatives, for instance, have launched a campaign alleging that imported food is unsafe — that milk is tainted by the Chernobyl nuclear fallout, that lemons are contaminated by an Agent Orange chemical.

Despite the concerns, the Americans are still considered the team to beat as Japan ushers in its new phase of open food markets.

Beef probably will be the fiercest battleground. Japanese beef is the choicest, tender and highly marbled.

Among imports, Australia commands a 55 percent market share in volume but only a 45 percent share in value, according to U.S. government figures. That is because most of Australia's cattle are fed on grass, producing a lean and lower-priced meat used for hamburgers and other mixed products.

But the United States specializes in the more lucrative market for grain-fed beef, which produces a more marbled beef used for steaks and prime ribs.

In citrus, U.S. companies dominate 98 percent of the regulated Japanese market. U.S. officials in Tokyo project that the market will double in the next three to five

See FOOD, Page 15

CURRENCY RATES

Cross Rates — March 27

	$	£	D.M.	F.F.	Lira	D.Fl	B.F.	S.F.	Yen	C$	Peseta
Amsterdam	1.977	3.35	1.1274	0.3326	0.1517 *	—	5.4765 *	1.338	1.386 *	1.459	1.818 *
Brussels	34.9925	60.915	20.587	6.064	2.7697 *	18.263	—	24.183	0.2514	30.175	32.393 *
Frankfurt	1.6874	2.961	—	0.2947	0.1346 *	0.887	4.858 *	1.174	1.2345 *	1.4578	1.612 *
London (a)	1.741	—	2.9686	10.0685	2,206.50	3.3389	61.16	2.5722	241.635	2.0184	184.08
Madrid	105.866	184.81	62.07	18.284	8.349 *	55.019	3.0123	72.962	76.227 *	91.325	—
Milan	1,280.35	2,202.50	743.68	219.12	—	659.63	36.125	874.85	9.138	1,094.50	11.985
New York (b)	—	1.7456 a	1.707	5.7955	1,270.00	1.9243	35.115	1.4582	138.50	1.158	105.80
Paris	3.3665	10.082	3.394	—	0.4565 *	3.0107	0.1640	3.9653	4.3465 *	4.9925	5.472 *
Tokyo	138.20	244.54	82.41	24.28	0.1111	73.14	4.0035	96.98	—	119.24	1.3317
Toronto	1.1592	2.0337	0.6788	0.2001	0.912 *	0.6031	3.304 *	0.7946	0.8313 *	—	1.092 *
Zurich	1.4585	2.5213	0.8489	0.2500	0.1142 *	0.7535	4.1298 *	—	1.0441 *	1.2483	1.3781 *
1 ECU	1.2046	0.4937	2.058	6.9808	1,527.84	2.3203	42.3683	1.7487	167.438	1.3971	127.680
1 SDR	1.3319	0.7707	2.2812	7.7956	1,695.63	2.604	46.844	1.944	187.853	1.5653	143.28

Closings in Amsterdam, London and Zurich, fixings in other centers; New York closing rates, Toronto rates at 3 p.m.
a: To buy one pound; b: To buy one dollar; *: Units of 100; N.Q.: not quoted; N.A.: not available.

Other Dollar Values

Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $
Argen. austral	9620.8	Greek drac.	184.25	Mex. peso	2980.00	S. Afr. rand	2.727
Austral. $	1.2912	Hong Kong $	7.7725	N. Zealand $	1.7007	Soviet ruble*	0.5808
Austr. schil.	11.97	Indian rupee	19.408	Norw. krone	6.59	Swed. krona	6.12
Brazil cruz.	228.45	Indo. rupiah	1915.00	Phil. peso	27.20	Taiwan $	27.07
Chinese yuan*	5.2221	Irish £	0.6390	Port. escudo	149.25	Thai baht	25.49
Danish krone	6.492	Israeli shek.	2.183	Saudi riyal	3.75	Turkish lira	3557.01
Egypt. pound	3.1816	Kuwaiti dinar	3.48	Sing. $	1.78	UAE dirham	3.6721
Fin. markka	4.02	Malay. ring.	2.7605	S. Kor. won	725.20	Venez. boliv.	54.18

New York rates unless marked * (local rate.)

Forward Rates

Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day	Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day
Pound Sterling	1.7298	1.7211	1.7137	Canadian dollar	1.1634	1.1665	1.1694
Deutsche mark	1.7088	1.7131	1.7171	Japanese yen	139.12	139.27	139.40
Swiss franc	1.4519	1.4547	1.4568				

Sources: NMB Bank (Amsterdam); Indosuez Bank (Brussels); Banco Commerciale Italiana (Milan); Banque Nationale de Paris (Paris); Bank of Tokyo (Tokyo); Royal Bank of Canada (Toronto); IMF (SDR); Gosbank (ruble). Other data from Reuters and AP.

INTEREST RATES

Eurocurrency Deposits — March 27

	Dollar	D-Mark	Swiss Franc	Sterling	French Franc	Yen	ECU	SDR
1 month	6 1/4-6 3/8	8 15/16-9 1/16	8 5/8-8 3/4	12 9/16-12 11/16	9 5/16-9 7/16	8-8 1/8	9 5/8-9 3/4	8
2 months	6 1/4-6 3/8	9-9 1/8	8 1/2-8 5/8	12 9/16-12 11/16	9 1/4-9 3/8	7 15/16-8 1/16	9 5/8-9 3/4	8
3 months	6 1/4-6 3/8	9 1/8-9 1/4	8 3/8-8 1/2	12 3/8-12 1/2	9 3/8-9 1/2	7 3/4-7 7/8	9 5/8-9 3/4	8
6 months	6 3/8-6 1/2	9 1/8-9 1/4	8 1/4-8 3/8	12-12 1/8	9 3/8-9 1/2	7 5/8-7 3/4	9 9/16-9 11/16	7 3/4
1 year	6 7/8-7	9 3/8-9 1/2	7 7/8-8	11 5/8-11 3/4	9 5/8-9 3/4	7 3/8-7 1/2	9 1/2-9 5/8	8

Sources: All Reuters except ECU: Lloyds Bank.
Rates applicable to interbank deposits of $1 million minimum (or equivalent).

Key Money Rates — March 27

United States	Close	Prev.
Discount rate	6.00	6.00
Prime rate	8 3/4/9	8 3/4/9
Federal funds	6.00	6 3/16
Com. paper 90-179 days	6.20	6.20
3-month Treasury bills	5.77	5.83
6-month Treasury bills	5.79	5.84
1-year Treasury bills	5.92	5.96
30-year Treasury bond	8.25	8.27
2-month CD's	6.05	6.10
3-month CD's	6.10	6.10
Japan		
Discount rate	6.00	6.00
Call money	8 5/32	8 1/4
2-month interbank	7 29/32	8 3/32
3-month interbank	7 15/16	7 31/32
Germany		
Discount rate	6 1/2	6 1/2
Lombard rate	9.00	9.00
Call money	9.05	9.05
1-month interbank	8.95	8.95
3-month interbank	9.10	9.10
6-month interbank	9.20	9.20
Britain		
Bank base rate	12 1/2	12 1/2
Call money	13.00	13 1/2
3-month interbank	12 1/2	12 1/2
6-month interbank	11 15/16	12 1/8
France		
Intervention rate	9.00	9.00
Call money	9 13/16	9 7/16
1-month interbank	9 1/4	9 5/16
3-month interbank	9 3/8	9 3/8
6-month interbank	9 7/16	9 7/16

Sources: Reuters, Salomon Brothers, Bank of Tokyo, Commerzbank, Crédit Lyonnais.

Asian Dollar Deposits — March 27

1 month	6 1/4 - 6 3/8
2 months	6 5/16 - 6 7/16
3 months	6 3/8 - 6 1/2
6 months	6 1/2 - 6 5/8
1 year	7 - 7 1/8

Source: Reuters.

U.S. Money Market Funds — March 27

Merrill Lynch Ready Assets
30-day average yield: 6.04
Telerate Interest Rate Index: 6.17
Source: Merrill Lynch, Telerate.

GOLD

March 27

	A.M.	P.M.	Ch'ge
Hong Kong	357.35	357.55	– 1.00
Luxembourg	357.00	—	– 0.75
Paris (12.5 kilo)	356.59	354.64	– 2.52
Zurich	357.00	354.75	– 2.70
London	357.10	354.05	– 2.55
New York	—	355.25	– 1.40

Luxembourg, Paris and London official fixings; Hong Kong and Zurich opening and closing prices; New York spot market close. All prices in U.S. $ per ounce.
Source: Reuters.

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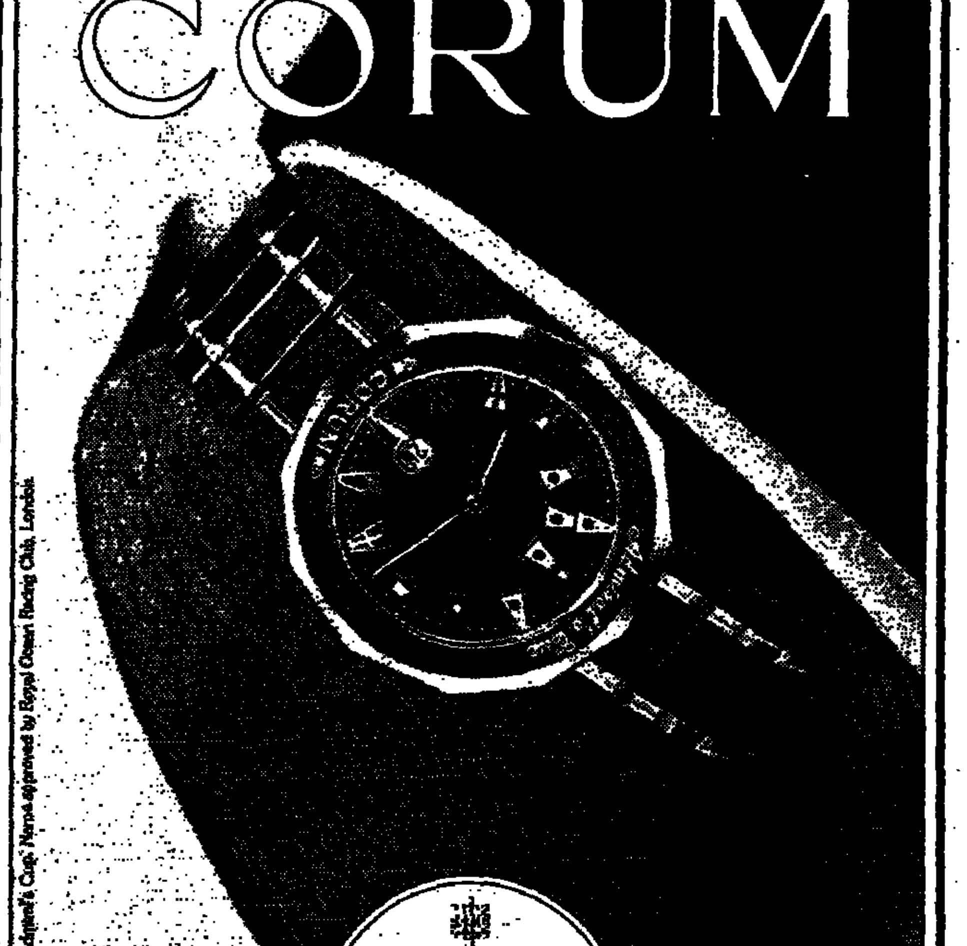

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MARKET DIARY

Quarter-End Gives Stocks a Small Lift

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — Stocks closed slightly higher on the New York Stock Exchange on Wednesday in heavy trading, bolstered by end-of-quarter buying that overcame a late wave of program selling.

The Dow Jones industrial average, which surged 49.01 points Tuesday, added 2.72 to close at 2,917.57.

Broader market gauges eased slightly, however. The New York

N.Y. Stocks

Stock Exchange composite index slipped 0.23 to 205.32 and the Standard & Poor's 500-stock index dipped 0.95 to 375.35.

Advances led declines by an 8-7 margin. Volume was 201.83 million shares, up from 198.72 million Tuesday.

The Dow opened higher on carryover momentum from Tuesday's late rally. The advance grew, eased slightly, and recovered by midday before an afternoon wave of sell programs wiped out the gains. It edged back into positive territory before the close.

"The market continues to hold up very well," said Ron Doran, director of institutional trading at C. L. King & Associates in Albany, New York. "We have the last day of the quarter tomorrow, cash is being put into the market for window dressing, and I expect to see some more of that tomorrow."

Investors are looking ahead to an economic rebound, following news Tuesday of a surprisingly sharp upturn in consumer confidence, said Robert Caputo, director of research at Swiss Bank Corp. Investment Banking Inc.

"We're moving from a short-term earnings focus to an economic and profit recovery," he said.

AT&T was the most active issue, up ⅞ to 34¾. NCR's chairman balked at continuing talks with AT&T, dampening the chances of a merger pact before NCR's annual meeting Thursday. NCR lost ⅛ to 97⅝.

Philip Morris followed, up ⅝ to 68¼. USAir was third, off ¾ to 19⅝.

Bank of Boston was also active, surging 1½ to 8⅝. It was believed to be working to secure financing to launch a bid for the failed Bank of New England.

Among other blue chips, American Express was unchanged at 30. IBM lost 1 to 112⅝ and USX rose 1⅜ to 32. It said it will record pretax charges of about $350 million against first-quarter results to cover costs of a restructuring plan for its steel division and its energy segment.

Prices rose in active trading on the American Stock Exchange.

(UPI, Reuters)

DOLLAR: *Waigel Triggers Surge*

(Continued from first finance page)

opening level of about 1.68 DM. It took some unequivocal remarks by Treasury Undersecretary David Mulford in Washington to slow the markets.

Caught by reporters, Mr. Mul-

Foreign Exchange

ford was asked about the Waigel remarks and replied: "We are concerned about the rapidity of the rise. We are not seeking a stronger dollar." He added that the United States also could live with the dollar-mark level "at the time of our meeting." The dollar was several pfennig lower when Mr. Waigel visited the Treasury on Monday.

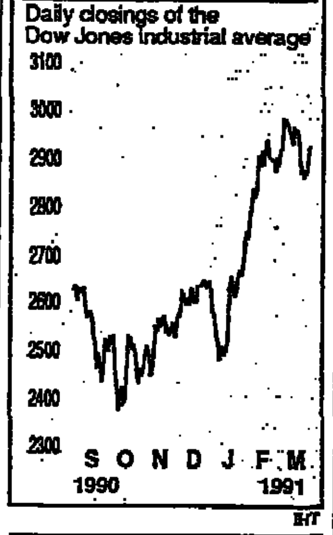
The dollar closed in New York Wednesday at 1.7070 DM, well above Tuesday's close of 1.6875 DM. It also finished at 139.50 yen, up from 138.75, and at 1.4562 Swiss francs, up from 1.4335.

A weak dollar has been an important if unstated goal of U.S. policy because the exports it generates are one of the few props under he weak economy. In releasing a revision of the fourth quarter gross national product showing a decline at a 1.6 percent rate instead of the original 2.1 percent, the Commerce Department said Wednesday that the unexpected source of strength came from foreign trade.

Via Associated Press March 27

The Dow

Daily closings of the Dow Jones industrial average



NYSE Most Actives

	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
AT&T	37417	35⅛	34	34⅝	+ ⅞
RJR Nb n	34817	12½	12	12⅛	— ⅛
PhilMr	29653	68⅝	67¾	68¼	+ ⅝
UsairG	23636	21	19⅝	19⅝	— ¾
BkBost	22701	9	8¼	8⅝	+1½
AmExp	22394	30¼	29⅝	30	
Wendys	22116	11	10½	10⅝	+ ¼
LaidlwB	21382	12¼	11⅞	12⅛	
BlockE s	17703	12¼	11⅛	11¼	— ¼
PepsiC s	17623	34⅝	33⅝	34⅛	
SchrPl s	17402	50⅝	49½	49½	— ⅛
IBM	17846	114⅝	112½	112⅝	—1⅛
GTE s	16351	31½	31	31	— ⅜
USX	15838	32	30⅝	32	+1⅜
Citicorp	15764	14⅞	14½	14½	

AMEX Most Actives

	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Lionel	8610	3⅝	3¼	3⅜	+ ⅛
A-att2 sc	3946	7	6½	6⅞	+ ⅜
A-bmy sc	3614	28	26	26¼	+ ¼
ICH	3443	5½	4⅞	5⅛	+ ⅜
FruitL	3409	13⅝	13	13½	+ ¾
vlCntAr	3332	3⅝	3¼	3½	— ⅛
Epitope n	3260	23	20¼	23	+1¾
Hilhav	3030	3	2⅞	3	
WangB	3020	4½	4⅜	4⅜	
DowC rt	2962	5¼	4⅞	5⅛	+ ⅛
PfdHlth	2529	19¾	18⅝	19½	+ ¼
Hasbro	2490	24½	24⅛	24⅜	+ ¼
ENSCO	2328	2⅞	2½	2⅝	+ ⅛
Amdhl	2274	16⅛	15¾	15¾	— ¼
IntMur n	2185	7⅛	5¼	7⅛	+2⅛

NYSE Diary

	Close	Prev.
Advanced	880	1041
Declined	711	537
Unchanged	483	475
Total Issues	2074	2053
New Highs	146	110
New Lows	4	5

Amex Diary

	Close	Prev.
Advanced	321	365
Declined	274	215
Unchanged	219	219
Total Issues	814	799
New Highs	48	40
New Lows	4	5

NASDAQ Diary

	Close	Prev.
Advanced	1,192	1,193
Declined	772	720
Unchanged	2,155	2,206
Total Issues	4,119	4,119

Dow Jones Averages

	Open	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Indus	2927.48	2956.93	2886.14	2917.57	+ 2.72
Trans	1114.42	1128.70	1106.84	1117.95	+ 15.16
Util	218.25	219.06	215.92	216.55	— 1.57
Comp	1039.77	1050.02	1027.90	1037.51	+ 3.46

Standard & Poor's Indexes

	High	Low	Close	Ch'ge
Industrials	448.42	443.77	444.43	— 1.02
Transp.	369.10	364.87	367.00	+ 2.13
Utilities	145.41	143.96	143.99	— 1.35
Finance	29.74	29.44	29.52	+ 0.08
SP 500	378.48	374.73	375.35	— 0.95
SP 100	359.63	355.24	356.00	— 1.74

NYSE Indexes

	High	Low	Close	Ch'ge
Composite	206.56	205.16	205.32	— 0.23
Industrials	258.54	257.03	257.03	— 0.32
Transp.	165.02	164.18	164.45	+ 1.60
Utilities	93.62	93.16	93.16	— 0.58
Finance	149.37	148.92	148.92	+ 0.64

NASDAQ Indexes

	High	Low	Close	Ch'ge
Composite	483.02	478.62	482.37	+ 3.80
Industrials	546.23	541.88	545.34	+ 4.41
Finance	436.74	433.67	436.51	+ 3.66
Insurance	547.51	540.09	545.38	+ 5.64
Utilities	571.84	567.69	568.12	+ 1.36
Banks	310.97	306.00	309.37	+ 3.36
Transp.	504.66	496.23	503.26	+ 7.22

AMEX Stock Index

High	Low	Close	Ch'ge
358.22	356.85	357.68	+ 0.76

Dow Jones Bond Averages

	Close	Ch'ge
20 Bonds	93.37	+ 0.13
10 Utilities	95.36	+ 0.16
10 Industrials	91.38	+ 0.10

Market Sales

NYSE 4 p.m. volume	201,830,000
NYSE prev. cons. close	240,965,380
Amex 4 p.m. volume	15,210,000
Amex prev. cons. close	14,630,088
NASDAQ 4 p.m. volume	194,384,300
NASDAQ prev. 4 p.m. volume	191,968,200
NYSE volume up	97,507,400
NYSE volume down	85,521,320
Amex volume up	7,973,900
Amex volume down	4,638,558
NASDAQ volume up	103,415,866
NASDAQ volume down	56,293,000

N.Y.S.E. Odd-Lot Trading

	Buy	Sales	Short*
March 26	676,762	697,793	37,301
March 25	611,881	604,315	10,560
March 22	584,760	513,624	2,817
March 21	701,096	725,233	15,876
March 20	856,643	646,646	16,005

*Included in the sales figures.

Dividends

Company	Per	Amt	Pay	Rec
INCREASED				
Oil-Dri Corp	Q	.06	6-17	5-22
REDUCED				
Signet Banking	Q	.20	4-25	4-5
SPECIAL				
Wolf (Howard B) Inc	-	.05	4-30	4-15
USUAL				
Blair Corp	Q	.15	5-1	4-10
Elcor Corp	Q	.05½	5-21	4-12
Ennis Bus Form	Q	.18	5-1	4-15
First Home Svgs Bk	Q	.10	4-30	4-17
Graphic Indust	Q	.01¾	4-12	3-29
Metropolitan Finl	Q	.12½	4-30	4-15
Montana Power	Q	.37	4-30	4-10
Nipsco Industries	Q	.29	5-20	4-30

a-annual; m-monthly; q-quarterly; s-semi-annual

Source: UPI.

Currency Options

PHILADELPHIA EXCHANGE

[illegible]

European Futures

[illegible]

London Metals

[illegible]

Spot Commodities

[illegible]

S&P 100 Index Options

[illegible]

Source: CBOE.

U.S. / AT THE CLOSE

New Chief at Philip Morris

NEW YORK (Combined Dispatches) — Philip Morris Cos. announced Wednesday that directors will vote on the nomination of Michael A. Miles to replace Hamish Maxwell as chairman and chief executive of the tobacco, food and beer giant.

Pending the board's approval, Mr. Miles, 51, will take over from Mr. Maxwell on Sept. 1. Mr. Maxwell will retire at the end of August. In the interim, Miles, now chairman and chief executive officer of the company's Kraft General Foods subsidiary and vice chairman of the parent company, will serve as deputy chairman of Philip Morris starting April 1.

The choice of a food-division executive to lead Philip Morris does not mean the company is distancing itself from the tobacco business, Mr. Miles said. *(UPI, Reuters)*

Henley Holder Urges Bid Rejection

NEW YORK (Reuters) — A Henley Group Inc. shareholder said Wednesday he would urge management to reject Libra Invest & Trade Ltd.'s $22-per-share bid, saying Henley was worth twice as much.

The offer, launched Wednesday, values the company at $435 million. But E. Magnus Oppenheim, president of E. Magnus Oppenheim & Co., added that arbitragers were betting that a higher offer might emerge. Henley stock jumped $3.625 to $23.875.

U.S. Merger Volume Plunges 68%

NEW YORK (Reuters) — U.S. merger activity in dollar terms plunged 68 percent in the first quarter, to the lowest levels since 1982, with Goldman Sachs tapped most often as adviser for deals on Wall Street, Securities Data Co. reported Wednesday.

While attention was on the Gulf war, U.S. businesses were the targets of 861 transactions totaling $17.2 billion, down sharply from one year ago, when the total was $53.9 billion for 1,165 transactions.

Global merger activity slid 40 percent to 1,615 announced deals totaling $58.6 billion, Securities Data said, but was buoyed by a modest 5 percent increase in European volume.

AT&T Ready for NCR Negotiations

PITTSBURGH (Reuters) — The American Telephone & Telegraph Co. chairman, Robert Allen, said Wednesday be is ready to negotiate with NCR Corp. at any time before the NCR shareholder meeting on Thursday, and said all terms of AT&T's offer for NCR remain negotiable, including price.

But Mr. Allen also said that AT&T was ready to continue its fight to acquire NCR in the courts if it did not win the 80 percent shareholder vote necessary to replace NCR's entire board at the meeting.

UPI Can't Pay Off All Ex-Employees

WASHINGTON (AP) — United Press International is unable to make severance payments to some former employees and to pay some of its suppliers, an official of the news service said Wednesday.

Milt Capps, UPI senior vice president and spokesman, said the company was reasonably confident it would soon find a buyer but had not ruled out the possibility of seeking protection under the bankruptcy laws. UPI has been owned since 1988 by Infotechnology Inc., which is currently under bankruptcy court protection.

Monitor Planning Cable TV Service

NEW ORLEANS (Reuters) — Outside investors from major companies are being sought for a new 24-hour cable TV news channel based on the Christian Science Monitor newspaper being launched across the United States next month, the head of the project said Wednesday.

Control of the channel will remain with the Boston-based nonprofit publishing arm of the Christian Science church. But the Monitor's television chairman, John Hoagland, said that executives decided outside partners were needed. The Monitor Channel will be launched April 15 to affiliated U.S. cable systems with a subscriber base in the "low millions early on" with formal launch aimed at consumers May 1, he said.

Benetton Plans to Sell Stock to Foreigners

Reuters

MILAN — The clothing manufacturer and retailer Benetton Group SpA said Wednesday that it would propose the issue of 30 million ordinary shares, mainly to foreign investors.

A Benetton spokeswoman said the shares would carry a nominal value of 500 lire (40 cents) each, but final pricing had not been determined. Existing stockholders, who meet on April 30 to discuss the plan, would be excluded from the issue.

The spokeswoman said Benetton's nominal share capital would go to 96.777 billion lire ($76 million) from 81.777 billion lire.

"We want to strengthen our shareholding structure abroad," she said, adding further capital increases could be carried out in the next three years.

At present, less than half of the company's shares are traded on the open market, with the majority held by Edizione Holding SpA, controlled by the Benetton family.

Before Wednesday's news was announced, the company's shares plunged 6 percent to close at 8,520 lire after Benetton surprised the market late on Tuesday by slashing its 1990 dividend despite record profit of 133.3 billion lire.

The cut, to 250 lire a share from 600 lire in 1989, was to boost cash flow and allow the company to invest overseas.

Rank Xerox Will Open Retail Chain in Poland

Reuters

LONDON — Rank Xerox Ltd., the office-equipment manufacturer jointly owned by The Rank Organization PLC and Xerox Corp., is planning a network of copy-shop franchises in Poland in its first move into retail photocopying in Eastern Europe.

The company said it hoped for 50 franchisees in the Eastern bloc by end-1992, starting with the Warsaw company Zespol.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Agence France Presse March 27

[illegible]

U.S. FUTURES

Via Associated Press March 27

Grains · Livestock · Food · Metals · Financial · Industrials

[illegible]

Stock Indexes

[illegible]

Commodity Indexes

[illegible]

Reuters : base 100 : Sep. 18, 1931.
Dow Jones : base 100 : Dec. 31, 1974.

Market Guide

CBT:	Chicago Board of Trade
CME:	Chicago Mercantile Exchange
IMM:	International Monetary Market
:	Of Chicago Mercantile Exchange
NYCSCE:	New York Cocoa, Sugar, Coffee Exchange
NYCE:	New York Cotton Exchange
COMEX:	Commodity Exchange, New York
NYME:	New York Mercantile Exchange
KCBT:	Kansas City Board of Trade
NYFE:	New York Futures Exchange

To Our Readers

Some commodities prices were not available in this edition because of technical problems.

For investment information read THE MONEY REPORT every Saturday in the IHT

Saatchi Bailout Plan Enacted

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

LONDON — A syndicate of 19 banks agreed Wednesday to throw a financial lifeline to Saatchi & Saatchi Co. after shareholders approved a controversial recapitalization plan crucial to the struggling advertising group's survival.

The banks, led by Chase Manhattan Bank, agreed to extend credit facilities by three years to 1996 and raise Saatchi's credit lines by £30 million ($53 million) to £50 million.

The banks acted following the overwhelming approval of the recapitalization plan by holders of more than 99 percent of Saatchi's shares. The plan will cut the company's debt to £275 million from about £500 million and requires shareholders to put up new money.

"The recapitalization removes a considerable cloud of uncertainty hanging over the future of the company," Chairman Maurice Saatchi told an extraordinary shareholders meeting. "Our intention is now to restore wealth to shareholders," he added. "We will resume dividend payments as soon as trading conditions allow."

The package includes a £55 million rights issue and a £5 million offer of shares to management.

The plan also converts two classes of preferred shares, Europreferred and British, into ordinary shares. That step enables Saatchi to avoid a £213 million commitment to buy them back in 1993.

The recapitalization will increase the group's number of outstanding ordinary shares nearly tenfold, significantly diluting existing ordinary holders' stake in the company.

Saatchi shares closed 1 penny lower in London Wednesday at 19.5 pence each. Last year's high for the stock was around 300 pence.

Saatchi was one of the success stories of Britain's economic boom in the 1980s. It became famous for its work on the election campaigns of the ruling Conservative Party, and grew through acquisitions — including the Ted Bates and Dorland agencies — to become the world's biggest advertising agency. Its British-based rival, WPP Group PLC, topped it in size with the 1989 purchase of the Ogilvy Group.

The rapid expansion left the group with a crushing debt load at a time of falling earnings due to recession in the United States and Britain. "The current recession in the advertising industry is the worst for over two decades," Mr. Saatchi said.

On Monday, the company announced a pretax loss of £5.2 million in the three months to December against a profit of £19.1 million in the previous year.

Chief Executive Robert Louis-Dreyfus said Saatchi's advertising, media buying and direct marketing divisions would operate unchanged, while other operations would be reviewed.

Analysts said Mr. Louis-Dreyfus, drafted in to turn the company around 18 months ago, would likely concentrate on cutting costs.

"The prospects for trading for all advertising and marketing companies are not good at the moment, and are likely to remain so," said Rupert Kenyon-Slaney of Barclays de Zoete Wedd.

Reports have suggested Mr. Louis-Dreyfus might sell the loss-making BSB agency, based in New York. BSB last week lost the $110 million account for Miller Lite beer. *(UPI, Reuters)*

Sweden's Siab Buys Eastern German Firm

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BERLIN — Siab AB, one of Sweden's largest construction companies, on Wednesday bought a large eastern German civil-engineering firm, Fürstenwalde GmbH.

Under an agreement with the Treuhandanstalt agency, which is holding and privatizing former East German state assets, Siab will retain 900 of the company's 979 employees.

Siab, with a staff of 10,000, had revenue of about 12 billion kronor (about $2 billion) last year, and built hotels and a shopping center for the former Communist government.

A Siab spokesman said the company would invest around 10 million Deutsche marks ($5.8 million) in Fürstenwalde each year.

Siab plans to use the company as a springboard into the EC and Eastern Europe. *(Reuters, AFP)*

Dutch Fund Targets Takeover Activity

Reuters

AMSTERDAM — Two Dutch securities firms announced Wednesday they had set up a fund to invest in potential takeovers, ruffling the calm in a country where no hostile bid has ever succeeded.

Dutch Takeover Targets NV is to be launched on the lower tier of the Amsterdam exchange, said London Amsterdam Merchant Bank and the brokerage house Henkelman, Pontier, Van Drie & Partners.

The fund is anticipating the erosion of rules that allow Dutch firms to vest control in nonquoted holding companies, issue preferential voting shares to associates and limit voting rights. Some of these techniques are allowed even after a bid is launched.

"One reason is developments in the EC, with the Bangemann proposals to limit Dutch-style takeover defenses," said one official of the fund, declining identification.

The EC Commission said it wants to level rules for bids across the Community, and the internal markets and industry commissioner, Martin Bangemann, has put forward proposals that would greatly reduce the power of EC companies to block bids through preferential voting rights and similar devices.

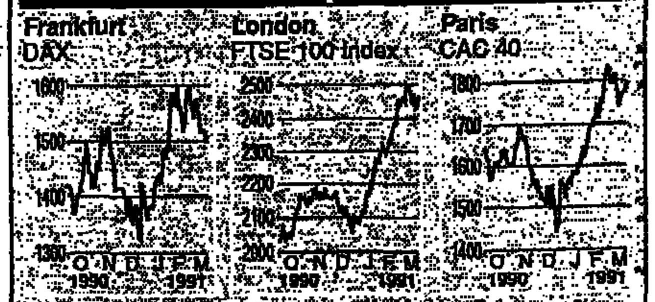
Dutch companies would be among the most severely affected by the proposals.

The fund will be the first Dutch institution to invest only in companies that might become targets of friendly or unfriendly takeover attempts.

Even if Mr. Bangemann's proposals do not come to fruition, investors might still benefit from the premiums arising from friendly bids.

In the recent 15.5 billion guilder ($8.1 billion) friendly merger between the insurer Nationale-Nederlanden and NMB Postbank Groep, finalized this month, investors were able to force an improvement in the terms of the bid for holders of Nat-Ned shares.

Investor's Europe



Exchange	Index	Wednesday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Amsterdam	CBS Trend	96.10	95.20	+0.95
Brussels	Stock Index	5791.83	5774.65	+0.30
Frankfurt	DAX	1508.80	1498.44	+0.69
Frankfurt	FAZ	645.45	639.18	+0.98
Helsinki	HEX	1157.70	1156.00	+0.15
London	Financial Times 30	1965.90	1942.90	+1.18
London	FTSE 100	2464.60	2437.60	+1.11
Madrid	General Index	284.29	282.23	+0.73
Milan	MIB	1123.00	1113.00	+0.90
Paris	CAC 40	1797.06	1775.09	+1.24
Stockholm	Affarsvariden	1064.30	1048.80	+1.48
Vienna	Stock Index	558.87	558.03	+0.15
Zurich	SBS	609.60	600.20	+1.57

Sources: Reuters, AFP — International Herald Tribune

Bertelsmann Indicates Profit To Be Stable

Reuters

GUTERSLOH, Germany — The publishing group Bertelsmann AG said Wednesday it expects group net profit in the current financial year to June 30 to be around the 1989-90 level of 510 m llion Deutsche marks ($298 million).

In an interim report, the company said business had continued strong in the first six months of the current year. The company reported its 1989-90 figures in September.

Bertelsmann said group net profit would stand at least at the 1989-90 level after positive business developments during the first six months. It gave no profit figures for the first half.

It said group operating profit stood considerably higher during the first half, compared with the same period in the previous year.

Bertelsmann's revenue was 7.34 billion DM during the period, the company said. No comparisons were immediately available.

The company invested 294 million DM during the first six months of this year.

German Firms Say Gulf Backlash Hits U.S. Sales

Reuters

FRANKFURT — Two leading German companies said on Wednesday their U.S. sales had suffered in recent months because of a discernible anti-German backlash as a result of their country's sideline role in the Gulf war.

The carmakers Bayerische Motoren Werke AG and Mercedes-Benz AG said they had experienced some reservations on the part of U.S. consumers who seemed to feel that Germany had shirked its responsibilities in the war.

"We have detected a certain reservation on the part of buyers in America," said a BMW spokesman, Uwe Mahla. "Talks with customers have shown that the failure of German politicians to express themselves at the start of the war led to a negative view of German companies."

BMW's U.S. sales plunged 35 percent in the first two months of 1991. Last year, 63,000 BMWs were sold in the United States, 12 percent of its worldwide total of 527,000.

Mercedes-Benz said sales had dropped 29 percent to 7,400 from 10,400 in the first two months of 1991 from the year earlier.

The new U.S. 10 percent luxury tax on cars above $30,000 was a major reason, but not the only one, said a spokesman, Christian Dau. The sluggish U.S. economy and weak dollar were other factors.

"Most of the decline is due to the luxury tax, but a portion that is difficult to define can be traced to the reservations about Germany," he said.

Thyssen AG, the steelmaker, has started legal action against the German magazine Stern for damage to its business that may arise because of an article the magazine published. Herbert Brenke, managing board member of Thyssen Handels Union AG, said Stern published false accusations that it had built a poison-gas laboratory in Iraq.

Shipping abroad $421 billion-worth of goods in 1990, Germany supplanted the United States, with $394 billion, as the world's leading exporter.

While the Economics Ministry in Bonn said it is aware of some isolated incidents of abstinence, a spokesman said he did not believe there were general reservations on the part of U.S. consumers about German goods.

Several officials said one of the tacit reasons for Finance Minister Theo Waigel's visit to the United States this week was to combat the notion that Germany was a reluctant ally.

Bull Records 1990 Loss of $1.18 Billion

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — Groupe Bull said Wednesday its net loss ballooned to 6.79 billion francs ($1.18 billion) in 1990 and hinted at plans for increased ties with France Telecom.

The loss, which compared with a 1989 loss of 267 million francs, included, as expected, a 3.62 million-franc restructuring charge to cut 20 percent of the ailing computer maker's 44,000 work force.

The French government is due to announce plans next week to inject about 2 billion francs of new capital into state-owned Bull. It also will examine "proposals by the group for improved cooperation" with France Telecom, the economics and industry ministries said Tuesday.

Chairman Francis Lorentz told the French financial daily Les Echos that Bull may set up a 50-50 joint venture with France Telecom, which owns 17 percent of Bull, to run its internal communications network. *(Reuters, AP, AFP)*

Petrofina Earnings Dip But Dividend Going Up

Reuters

BRUSSELS — The Belgian oil and petrochemicals company Petrofina SA said on Wednesday that its profit fell 7.7 percent in 1990, only the second time in a decade the company has declared a drop in earnings.

But analysts said Petrofina should improve its net profit in 1991 as refinery modernization and new petrochemical plants come on stream.

The company said consolidated net profit fell to 21.7 billion francs ($626.9 million) in 1990, from a revised 23.5 billion francs in 1989.

But it proposed raising its 1990 net dividend to 421 francs per share, from 416 francs in 1989.

The profit figures were based on new accounting rules concerning the conversion of foreign subsidiaries' accounts into Belgian francs.

Based on old accounting rules, the 1989 consolidated net profit was 21.8 billion francs. A figure for 1990 based on the old system was not given.

"We see a modest rise," said Pierre Willaert, an analyst at the Brussels stockbroker Puissant Baeyens, Poswick, De Laet & Co. "There are some investments coming to maturity and given the strong demand in refining this will benefit Petrofina."

Petrofina will soon complete modernizing refineries in Antwerp, Belgium and Port Arthur in the United States. The Antwerp refinery will make Petrofina one of the major European producers of unleaded gasoline.

But Mr. Willaert said Petrofina's profit gain this year could be limited by overcapacity in petrochemicals.

Petrofina also announced for the first time its operating profit and profit by its main sectors of activity. Total pretax operating profit before financial charges amounted to 43.39 billion francs.

This was broken down into a profit of 20.3 billion francs for Petrofina's oil and gas production, 13.47 billion francs for refining, transport and marketing, 12.27 billion francs for chemicals and paints and a charge of 2.65 billion francs for other activities and unallocated costs.

Petrofina said in January its petrochemicals business was affected by a rise in oil prices but strong demand enabled the company to work at full capacity and recover rising costs.

Budapest Brewer Marfu Posts 40% Profit Rise

Agence France-Presse

BUDAPEST — The brewing company Marfu will be the first company listed on the Budapest Stock Exchange to pay a dividend, shareholders decided Wednesday.

Marfu, which employs 330 people, made a profit last year of 107.3 million forints ($1.5 million), a 40 percent improvement over 1989. Sales were 230 million forints higher than in 1989.

DEUTSCHE: *Profit Up, but Growth Rate Is Slower*

(Continued from first finance page)

are well equipped for the future," he said, adding that he was "confident that the bank would be able to follow up on last year's good results in the current year."

He said that interim results for the first two months of 1991 showed a "positive trend" but did not give details.

The bank also published figures for the parent institution, which posted an operating profit in 1990 of 3.53 billion DM, up 5.1 percent from 1989, and growth in business volume of 18.7 percent to 260.6 billion DM.

Mr. Cartellieri, in a broad assessment of the world economy, predicted that the dollar's recent sharp increase has been "not totally rational" and that the U.S. currency "may fall sharply again" if the market focuses again on fundamental factors such as the U.S. deficit, weak growth, low savings and the banking crisis.

He doubted that the dollar was likely to fall again to its recent lows near 1.45 DM, however, because there are a number of reasons for the mark's own weakness. He listed the "irritation" of the markets with the steady accumulation of bad news from eastern Germany, "exorbitant" wage demands by unions in western Germany and the psychological effect of the economic crisis in Eastern Europe.

NASDAQ

Wednesday's Prices

NASDAQ prices as of 4 p.m. New York time. This list compiled by the AP, consists of the 1,000 most traded securities in terms of dollar value. It is updated twice a year.

12 Month High	12 Month Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	Sls 100s	High	Low	4 P.M.	Ch'ge
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

NYSE

Wednesday's Closing

Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. *Via The Associated Press*

(Continued)

AMEX

Wednesday's Closing

Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. *Via The Associated Press*

ECU D'OR

Registered Office: 20 boulevard Emmanuel Servais
2535 Luxembourg

Notice is hereby given that the

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

of the Shareholders of ECU D'OR will be held at the registered office of the Company at 3:30 p.m. on 16th April 1990 with the following agenda:

1. Approval of the reports of the Board of Directors.
2. Approval of the reports of the Auditor.
3. Approval of the balance sheet and profit and loss account for the year ended December 31, 1990.
4. Allocation of the net result.
5. Discharge of the Directors for the performance of their duties during the year ended December 31, 1990.
6. Reelection of the Directors.
7. Miscellaneous.

Resolutions on the above mentioned agenda will require no quorum and the resolution will be passed at a simple majority of the shares present or represented at the Meeting.

A shareholder may act at any meeting by proxy.

On behalf of the Company
BANQUE DE GESTION EDMOND DE ROTHSCHILD
LUXEMBOURG
société anonyme
20, boulevard Emmanuel Servais
2535 LUXEMBOURG

STAR CONVERTIBLE FUND

Registered Office: 20 boulevard Emmanuel Servais
2535 Luxembourg

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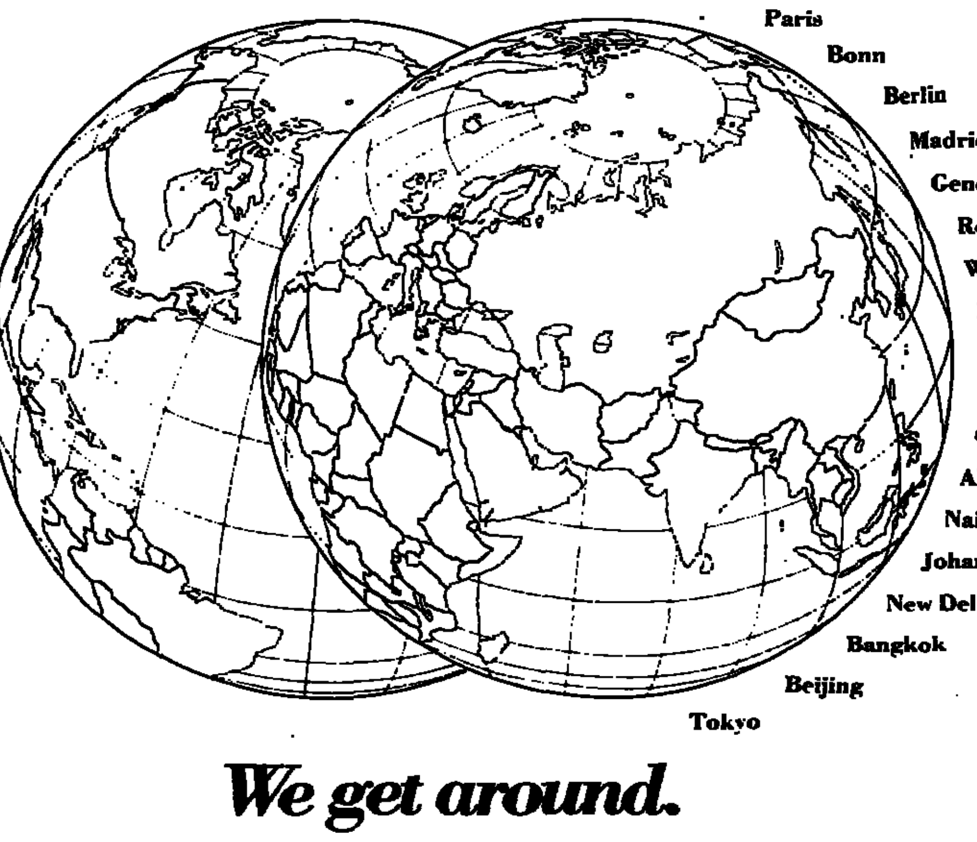
On behalf of the Company
BANQUE DE GESTION
EDMOND DE ROTHSCHILD LUXEMBOURG
société anonyme
20, boulevard Emmanuel Servais
2535 LUXEMBOURG

How in the world can we publish so much international news?



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H. K. Telecom Cuts 8% of Work Force

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

HONG KONG — Hong Kong Telecommunications Ltd. said Wednesday it is sacking 1,100 workers at its wholly owned subsidiaries, Hong Kong Telephone and Hong Kong Telecom International, because of overstaffing.

Finance Director John Tonroe said the company, which is controlled by Britain's Cable & Wireless PLC, expects to post a higher profit in the year ending March 31, 1992, because of the move.

Mr. Tonroe said the cuts, which amount to nearly 8 percent of the staff of the two subsidiaries, would save at least 130 million Hong Kong dollars ($16.7 million) in the coming financial year.

He said the company would take an exceptional charge of 130 million dollars in the current year to cover payments to laid-off workers.

"Our studies have shown that we have more staff than we need in order to maintain our standards of service," said Michael Gale, the group's chief executive.

The move cheered investors, and Hong Kong Telecommunications shares ended 10 cents higher at 7.15 dollars.

The reductions followed the company's announcement earlier this month that it planned to combine the operations of its local and international telephone services.

Hundreds of workers marched to the company's headquarters to protest the layoffs, and union leaders demanded talks with management and instructed workers not to accept layoff notices.

Mr. Gale said the cuts were "non-negotiable," however. The company said the dismissed staff would receive compensation well in excess of that required under Hong Kong's Labor Ordinance.

The cuts will affect 900 of the 12,000 employees at Hong Kong Telephone, which has the exclusive franchise on domestic phone service until 1995, and 200 of the 2,400 employees at Hong Kong Telecom International, which owns the exclusive right to overseas service until 2006. *(Reuters, AFP)*

Li Ka-Shing Companies Post Healthy Profits

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

HONG KONG — Hutchison Whampoa Ltd., one of Hong Kong's main trading conglomerates, posted Wednesday a 16 percent gain in profit for 1990 and said it would continue its present investment policy despite the recession.

Hutchison's net grew to 3.52 billion Hong Kong dollars ($451 million) for the year, from 3.03 billion dollars in 1989, despite a drop in revenue to 15.98 billion dollars, from 17.69 billion the year before.

"While the recession which a number of countries are experiencing may become more entrenched, this is unlikely to have a significant effect on Hong Kong's economy," said Li Ka-shing, Hutchison's chairman. He said the company expects to pay a higher dividend for 1991 than the total 65 cents a share payable for 1990.

Cheung Kong (Holdings) Ltd., the real estate developer that owns about 40 percent of Hutchison, reported separately a gain of just under 17 percent in net profit for the year, to 3.25 billion dollars from 2.78 billion. Like Hutchison, revenue was lower: 4.41 billion dollars, against 5.04 billion in 1989.

Mr. Li said Cheung Kong would continue to expand its land bank.

As for Hutchison, its managing director, Simon Murray, said that its 43 percent holding in Canada-based Husky Oil Ltd. had proved a disappointment because of relatively low oil prices.

"If somebody came in and said, 'I will give you good money for Husky,' we would certainly look at it," Mr. Murray said.

Mr. Li said of Hutchison: "The group's financial position is strong and its broad range of core businesses continue to perform satisfactorily." *(Reuters, AFP)*

China Offers Deep Tax Cuts

Network of Industrial Parks Aims to Woo Investors

By David Holley
Los Angeles Times Service

BEIJING — China is establishing a nationwide network of industrial parks offering deep tax cuts aimed at attracting foreign and domestic investment into high-technology enterprises.

The State Council, China's cabinet, earlier this month approved standardized regulations for 27 high-tech industrial parks set up in recent years by local governments in cities across the country. The new rules place the parks under the management of the State Science and Technology Commission; 11 existing parks will remain under local control.

In recent times, some foreign investors have been reluctant to invest in China because of difficulties in repatriating capital and also because of the disappointing quality of production.

The industrial parks are being promoted "to create a favorable environment for the development of new and high technology … and push ahead the development of new and high-technology industries in China," said Shi Dinghuan, director-general of the Department of Industry of the State Science and Technology Commission.

The standard income-tax rate for foreign joint ventures in China is 33 percent. But high-tech ventures in the 27 industrial parks under commission management will have tax rates of 15 percent, said Li Xu'e, the commission vice chairman who also spoke at a recent press conference.

The tax rate will be reduced to 10 percent for companies exporting more than 70 percent of their total output, Mr. Li added. Those low tax rates will also apply to high-tech Chinese enterprises operating in the parks. Foreign joint ventures will be entirely exempt from income taxes for the first two profit-making years, Mr. Li added.

Parts of China, especially the southern coastal areas, have experienced an industrial boom fueled largely by foreign investment in labor-intensive manufacturing. Growing emphasis on industrial parks is part of a broad effort to encourage investment in more advanced industries.

The emotional, as well as practical, importance of this was illustrated when Mr. Li interrupted another speaker at the press conference to stress that all 70 foreign joint ventures operating in Beijing's industrial park "are high-technology enterprises, not ordinary enterprises making shoes." His disparaging tone in referring to shoe-making provoked laughter from many of the Chinese journalists present.

There are already more than 2,500 high-tech enterprises in these parks, Mr. Li said. Their total production value in 1990 was more than 7 billion yuan ($1.3 billion), up from 3 billion yuan in 1989.

China hopes to boost the output value from high-tech industrial parks to about 25 billion yuan by the end of 1996.

The new State Council regulations define eligible high-tech enterprises as those engaged in microelectronics and electronic information, aerospace, optical electronics, bioengineering, materials science, energy technology, ecology science and environmental protection, earth science and marine engineering, fundamental matter and radiation, medical science and biomedical engineering and other new processes and technologies.

Many rules for the 27 industrial parks are similar to regulations established for China's five special economic zones and other specially favored development districts. Bonded factories, for example, may be set up with exemption of taxes on imported materials and exported products.

Air Woes Weigh on Swire's Profit

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

HONG KONG — Swire Pacific Ltd., the trading conglomerate, announced Wednesday a 20.5 percent plunge in net profit for 1990, due to heavy losses in air transport and commercial real estate.

Swire reported a net of 2.45 billion Hong Kong dollars ($314 million) for 1990, down from 3.08 billion dollars the year before.

Chairman David Gledhill said the overall outlook beyond 1991 is encouraging, but uncertainty over the prospects for Swire's airline, the Hong Kong flag-carrier Cathay Pacific, make it hard to form a view.

"Cathay is likely to have a difficult year in 1991, reflecting the adverse conditions which continue to affect the airline industry generally," he said.

Swire, one of Hong Kong's biggest and oldest trading houses, has extensive interests in aviation, property investment, shipping, insurance and commerce.

Cathay Pacific, 51.85 percent held by Swire, reported on Monday a 9.8 percent decline in 1990 net profit, to 2.99 billion dollars.

"Swire Properties' profits were significantly lower than those of the previous year, which had included completion profits from the sales of various residential units," Mr. Gledhill said. "Net rental income is expected to increase significantly in 1991."

Profits in the trading and insurance divisions were also down sharply.

The company has no major expansion plans for 1991 and is currently discussing whether to go ahead with orders for new Boeing 747 aircraft.

Swire said it would bid for contracts coming up in war-ravaged areas of the Gulf, particularly offshore reconstruction in Kuwait and Iran's Kharg Island in the Gulf.

Consolidated net borrowings at end-1990 jumped to 10.62 billion dollars, from 7.8 billion the previous year. *(Reuters, UPI)*

Mitsui Sells Property to Offset Losses

Agence France-Presse

TOKYO — Mitsui & Co., Japan's leading trading company, said Wednesday it would sell 49 percent of a Tokyo property for 21.8 billion yen ($162 million) to offset losses from a failed petrochemical project in Iran.

Mitsui said it would post a profit of 20.9 billion yen on the sale to its affiliate Mitsui Toatsu Chemicals Inc., Japan's third-biggest chemical concern.

"The profit from this transaction will simply offset our loss on the Iranian project, and other things," a Mitsui spokesman said. "There will be no change in our expected profit for the fiscal year."

Mitsui said last week it was seeking 93 billion yen in compensation from the Ministry for International Trade and Industry for its failed Iran-Japan Petrochemical Development Co. venture.

The trading firm had a 60 percent stake in the project, abandoned after disruptions caused by Iran's eight-year war with Iraq, while Mitsui Toatsu and another chemical company, Tosoh Corp., held 15 percent each.

Mitsui Petrochemical Industries Ltd. and Japan Synthetic Rubber Co. shared the rest.

The property, located near downtown Tokyo's commercial center, includes a 10-story building with floor space of almost 19,000 square meters (209,000 square feet).

The sale price values the full property at 44.5 billion yen, or more than 23 million yen per square meter.

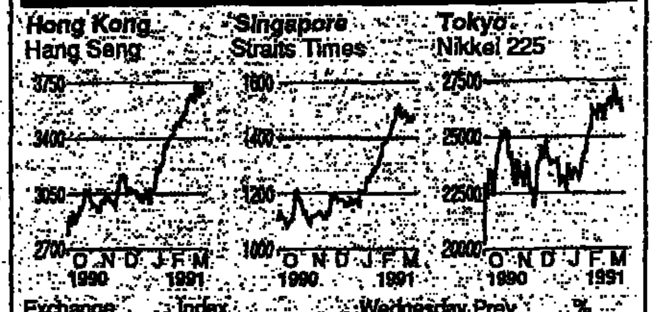
■ Ohira Sangyo Fails

Ohira Sangyo Corp., a real estate firm linked to the financially troubled trading house Itoman Corp., has become the fourth-largest business failure in postwar Japan, with outstanding liabilities of some 200 billion yen, Agence France-Presse quoted a private credit institute as reporting.

Ohira was one of the main borrowers from Itoman, said Teikoku Data Bank Ltd.

The agency said Ohira's debt included about 110 billion yen borrowed from Itoman.

Investor's Asia



Exchange	Index	Wednesday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	3591.32	3583.90	+0.21
Singapore	Straits Times	1472.50	1465.92	+0.45
Sydney	All Ordinaries	1437.1	1437.2	-0.01
Tokyo	Nikkei 225	26104.65	26339.38	-0.89
Kuala Lumpur	Composite	582.60	587.98	-0.91
Bangkok	Book Club	755.67	762.31	-0.87
Seoul	Composite Stock	655.18	664.05	[illegible]
Taipei	Weighted Price	4951.91	4880.76	+1.46
Manila	Composite	1097.86	1068.01	+2.79
Jakarta	Stock Index	406.98	403.23	+0.93
New Zealand	Barclays	1331.24	1323.98	+0.55
Bombay	National Index	589.48	587.16	+0.40

Sources: Reuters, AFP — International Herald Tribune

FOOD: *No Feast for U.S. in Japan*

(Continued from first finance page)

years as the Japanese learn new uses, such as juicers for freshly squeezed juice.

In the past two years, two new Australian organizations have opened shop in Tokyo to coordinate the export of oranges to Japan.

In addition, South Africa and Spain could enter the market, although the transit time of 24 days to Japan is twice as long as from California.

The biggest question hangs over Japan's controversial rice market. For years, the market has been virtually closed because Japan argues it needs to be self-sufficient in producing this basic food.

Although Japanese agricultural officials and farm groups deny it, others say a consensus is growing in Japan to crack a wedge in the sealed market. Japan's business sector has long supported liberalization, fearing that U.S. ire over the closed rice market would result in retaliation against Japanese TVs, automobiles, computers and other industrial products.

But polls last year by the Yomiuri newspaper and the Japan Public Survey Institute showed that more than 60 percent of Japanese consumers surveyed now favor a partial opening. In the past several months, a host of Japanese leaders, including former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, have called for "flexibility."

The United States has proposed that Japan open 3 percent of its market, growing to 5 percent over 10 years. In exchange, the United States would go along with tariffs that would make imported rice more expensive.

"The Japanese have made it quite clear that as soon as the U.S. and Europe come to some agreement with GATT, they'll be there with partial market access," said a U.S. official in Tokyo.

But in the meantime, the issue is dominated by such spats as the one that developed over a display by U.S. rice growers at the Chiba food fair.

ADVERTISEMENT

INTERNATIONAL FUNDS

March 27, 1991

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The marginal symbols indicate frequency of quotations supplied: d - daily; w - weekly; b - bi-monthly; r - regularly; t - twice weekly; m - monthly.

ABACUS FUNDS
w Abacus Fund Ltd — $ 7.20
b Abacus Guart.Fd.July 95 — $ 9.54
b Abacus Guart.Fd.Mar 94 — $ 8.80
ABC INVESTMENT & SERVICES CO (E.C.)
m ABC Futures Fund Ltd — $ 98.00
ABN BANK 1.D.M. P.O. Box 669, Amsterdam
w ABN-Aandelenfonds — Fl 76.14
w ABN-Beleggingsfds Ned. — Fl 60.20
w Aldollar — $ 22.40
w Alrenta — Fl 175.70
w America-Fund (I.E) — $ 173.87
w Asian Tigers Fund — $ 32.20
w LDC Risk Inv. Fund — $ 1182.75
[illegible]

w FRF — FF 11284.30
INTER STRATEGIE
w France — FF 10114.53
w Europe du Nord — £ 1048.88
w Europe du Centre — DM 2018.22
w Europe du Sud — Ecu 1038.63
w Japon — Y 135621.99
w Amerique du Nord — $ 1096.46
w Sud-Est Asiatique — $ 971.63
BNP JERSEY
INTER CURRENCY
w DM — DM 34.2256
w GBP — £ 13.3153
w US$ — $ 12.1895
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d CS Money Market Fd £ — £ 1845.72
d CS Money Market Fd $ — $ 1595.05
d CS Money Market Fd C$ — C$ 1072.86
d CS Money Market Fd DM — DM 1379.59
d CS Money Market Fd Ecu — Ecu 1043.61
d CS Money Market Fd Yen — Y 127730.00
d CS Oeko-protec A — DM 285.67
d CS Prime Bond A — DM 89.11
[illegible]

GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT
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w GAM America Inc. — $ 247.99
w GAM Arbitrage Inc. — $ 227.72
w GAM ASEAN Inc. — $ 175.16
w GAM Australia Inc. — $ 114.59
w GAM Bond Fd Inc. £ — £ 109.25
w GAM Bond Fd Inc. DM — DM 91.33
[illegible]

w Class D (Ecu Bond) — Ecu 10.20
JARDINE FLEMING, GPO Box 11448 Hg Kg
d JF ASEAN Trust — $ 24.05
d JF Far East Wrnt Tr. — $ 9.18
d JF Glbl Conv. Tr. — $ 11.23
d JF Hong Kong Trust — $ 86.46
d JF Japan Sm. Co Tr. — Y 65626.00
d JF Japan Trust — Y 17585.00
[illegible]

w Winch. Capital — $ 102.10
w Winch. Frontier — $ 244.72
w Winch. Fut. Olympia Star — $ 103.28
w Winch. Hldg Int'l Madison — Ecu 1062.98
w Winch. Hldg Int'l Ser D — Ecu 1243.56
w Winch. Hldg Int'l Ser F — Ecu 1244.89
w Winch. Hldg US$ — $ 16.50
w Winch. Reser. Multi. Gvbd — $ 14.07
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d France Valor — FF 1679.28
d Germania Valor — DM 442.80
d Gold Portfolio — SF 391.23
d Iberia Valor — Pta 98043.00
d Ital Valor — Lit 403634.00
d Japan Portfolio — Y 30580.00
d SBC £ MMF — £ 2222.13
d SBC 100 Index Fund — SF 1046.00
d SBC DM Short A/B — DM 1042.58
d SBC Ecu MMF — Ecu 2718.16
d SBC Euro Stock — Ecu 154.00
d SBC Sfr Bond A — SF 1059.46
d SBC Sfr Bond B — SF 1182.51
d SBC US$ MMF — $ 6458.39
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d Europe 1992 — $ 9.82
d Europe Obligations — Ecu 79.81
w F.I.T. Fund FF — FF 119.75
w F.M.P. Portfolio — $ 0.9271
w Fairfield Int'l Ltd — $ 156.16
w Fairfield Sentry Ltd — $ 215.95
w Fairfield Strat. Ltd — $ 42.15
m Fafum Fund — $ 658.82
w First Eagle Fund — $ 3747.42
m First Frontier Funds — $ 85.14
w FL Trust Switzerland — SF 98.48
d Fondilatio — $ 81.74
w Forexlex Issue Pr. — SF 140.46
d Force Cash DM Sicav — DM 5217.25
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Other Funds
[illegible]
d Win Global Fd Bd Ptfl — Ecu 102.51
d Win Global Fd Eq Ptfl — Ecu 108.57
d Win Global Fd Res. Ptfl — SP 203.43
d World Balanced Fund S.A. — $ 12.32
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SPORTS

Mota: Sons of the Father a Blessing for Baseball

By Claire Smith
New York Times Service

KISSIMMEE, Florida — Manny Mota is a 34-year veteran of professional baseball, and the way he he figures it the game has contributed so much to his life, to his family's well-being, that he just cannot help reciprocating.

"This game has been so great, there's no way to express how grateful I am," Mota said. "So I just want to give something back."

Mota — employed by professional baseball for 34 of his 53 years, including the last 22 with the Los Angeles Dodgers, now as a coach — does that.

In his native Dominican Republic, where his popularity is said to be unrivaled, he has run health clinics and food drives, and for 24 years has organized and equipped a 16-team Little League.

But Mota, a veteran of 20 major-league seasons as a player, has not stopped at that. He is in the process of giving perhaps the most unique and precious commodity of all to baseball: Manny Mota is giving his sons.

The eldest, José Manuel, 26, is with the San Diego Padres organization.

Andres Albertos (Andy), 25, and Manuel Rafael Jr. (Gary), 21, are in the Houston Astros system, and Domingo Rafael, 22, is in the Dodgers' system.

The is pride obvious, but Mota tends to talk of his family's good fortune.

Others tend to talk of good genes, as in those handed down by a career .304 hitter who was said to have had such good bat control he could roll out of bed on Christmas Day and stroke a single up the middle.

Andy Mota, an infielder, has won two minor-league batting titles in four seasons and is a career .305 hitter.

José Mota, a switch-hitting second baseman, batted .300 for Triple-A Las Vegas last year.

Domingo Mota, chosen in the free-agent draft last June by Los Angeles, hit .343 for Kissimmee and was named an all-star in the rookie Gulf Coast League.

Gary Mota, tabbed as one of the top 20 hitting prospects by "Baseball America" in last year's June draft, was taken in the second round by Houston. He hit .258 with 12 doubles, 4 triples and 3 home runs in 69 games for Auburn of the Class A New York-Penn League.

Others may be looking for signs of the father in any of the four sons, but Manny Mota is not.

His homeland popularity often compared to that of Roberto Clemente in Puerto Rico, Mota saw that the pressure of carrying the family name almost overwhelmed young Andy during youngster's just-completed first winter league tour in the Dominican Republic.

"So the one thing I tell my kids is don't try to copy me," Mota said. "I tell them: 'Don't let the name be an influence. Depend on yourselves — earn it with hard work and dedication.'"

Can any or all of the four sons make it in the major leagues?

"It's in their hands," Mota said. "All I can hope is that the good Lord gives them the strength to have their own dreams come true."

Andy Mota has come the closest. Invited to the big-league camp, he competed for the Astros' second-base job this spring. But the youngster, in a big-league camp for the first time, hit only .222 in limited appearances and was recently optioned to the minors.

With his father's easy-going, engaging nature, Andy Mota refuses to be discouraged.

"I think I did well, and I worked hard," he said. "I hope they were happy with what they saw."

They were. "Andy needs a little more time, but he knows what to do with a bat," said Bob Watson, Houston's assistant general manager. "Once he gets a position in the big leagues, I have a feeling he's going to hold it for a long time."

That is part of the father's dream. But it is not the only dream.

Manny and Margarita Mota wished more for their six sons and two daughters than just marvelous athletic skills. They also willed them to be well-rounded human beings. Mota, who talks of all their aspirations and accomplishments, thinks they are.

"Cecilia is an interior designer," he said of his first-born. "LuLu is in college and wants to be a teacher." Antonio Nicolas, 14, already a three-sport athlete, desires to follow his brothers, Mota said, but Rafael Manuel, 16, does not.

"He doesn't even like baseball," Mota said, almost with an air of pride. "He wrote a letter to his mother and myself asking, 'Please don't force me to play.' He loves music and he wants to be an airline pilot. I think that's great."

It is that attitude that Andy Mota cherishes. "There was just never any pressure to play," he said. "In fact, there was more pressure to stay in school and do well than there was to go to a baseball game."

Andy Mota is a living testament to those priorities. The straight-A student is just two semesters away from earning his degree in business administration at California State, Fullerton.

For now, though, he is concentrating on baseball. And like his brothers, he is working toward giving back something to his father — a son's first major-league at-bat.

"That will mean a lot to all of us, but more to my dad," he said. "And I can't wait to give him that moment, because he's always followed us so close and helped so much."

Coming Up: A Rose and a Clemente

The Associated Press

SARASOTA, Florida — Pete Rose and Roberto Clemente, with names that conjure up images of baseball greatness and tragedy, both are trying to rise above Class AA status in the Baltimore Orioles' organization. They have decided to work at it together.

"It's sort of strange that at Hagerstown they've got Pete Rose Jr. and Roberto Clemente Jr.," Rose said. "I can tell this year is going to be interesting already."

"It's a very good chemistry between us," said Clemente, 24. "I feel like I've known him a long time. I guess it's the thing with our fathers, but it goes beyond that. It just sort of happened."

Clemente's father died Dec. 31, 1972, in a plane crash as he was taking earthquake-relief supplies to Nicaragua. Roberto Jr. was 6 at the time.

"I feel cheated," he said. "Everything that's going on with my life would have been different if he were alive."

There was also some guilt. Before the flight, he told his mother the plane was not going to make it to Nicaragua. Roberto Sr. was sitting nearby when his son said, "Tell him not to go because the plane's going to crash."

Much to the child's horror, he was right. "It came out just like that, and I really felt it," he said. "It was a very scary thing for me."

He has not followed his father's path in baseball. Roberto Sr. got 3,000 hits in 18 years of major-league ball; his son has yet to step to the plate in the big leagues.

He played three years of professional baseball, from 1984 to 1986, until he injured his knee. He sat out four years, until the Orioles decided to give him a try this season. He is an outfielder, as was his father, but he does not want his father's No. 21.

"I used to wear 21 as a kid, but I understand now what a player has to do to make his number," he said. "He made No. 21, and I want to make my own number."

Pete Rose Jr. does not think that way. He wears No. 14 and on his chest bangs a pendant with the same number, a gift from his father.

"I wore 21 my first year and I did terrible, batted .179," he said. "Then I wore 14 at Erie and hit .276. I'm going to keep No. 14 in the family."

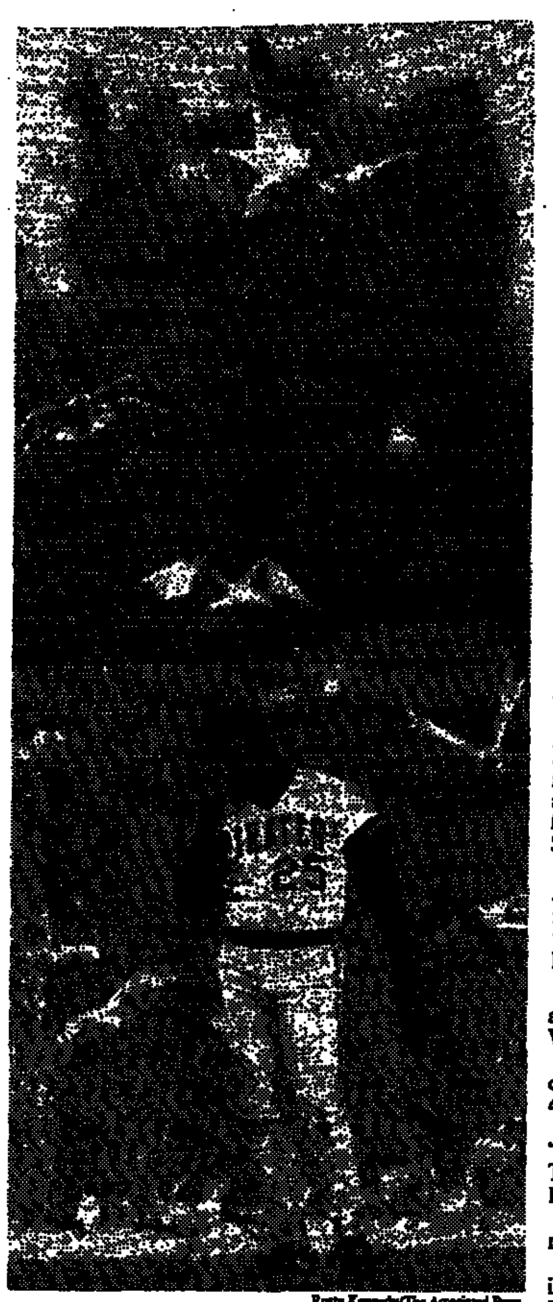
Rose has said he will name his first son Pete, too, even though having the name Pete Rose has not been easy the last two years. The elder Rose, with a record 4,256 hits and a .303 lifetime average, was banned from baseball for gambling.

"It's never going to be over," Rose said. "But not seeing him in the paper and in the news every day, that's going to help a lot. I figure if I made it through these past two years, that's the biggest obstacle I'll ever face."

"It's made me mentally tougher," he added. "I've heard 10,000 people chanting 'I-R-S' and stuff like that. I went up there and got a base hit and it sort of shut them up."

Officials at the Orioles' minor league camp say privately that Rose, a third baseman, has a much better shot at making the club than Clemente. But Clemente clings to the hope that he and his new friend can renew the competition that their fathers once waged.

"It would be great," he said. "It is very ironic, the battles of Pete Rose and my dad for batting titles and everything else. I think about it and I start laughing."


Rusty Kennedy/The Associated Press
Bonilla on the practice field: For the birds.

Bonilla Turns Down Pirates' $16 Million

The Associated Press

BRADENTON, Florida — Not even the most unusual contract offer in the team's history, a deal that essentially would allow him to become a free agent after each season, has enticed three-time All-Star Bobby Bonilla into re-signing with the Pittsburgh Pirates for another four years.

Bonilla turned down a two-pronged proposal that would have nearly doubled his $2.3 million salary this season and made him one of the richest players in baseball.

"We're going to keep working at it and trying to get it done," the team's president, Carl Barger, said Tuesday.

The Pirates' latest proposal is actually two offers. One is a four-year contract worth slightly more than $4 million annually that would start in 1992. The other would start this season and give the Pirates the right to match any offer to Bonilla if he becomes a free agent after this season.

Bonilla's agent, Dennis Gilbert, called the offer "interesting" but said the Pirates still aren't willing to pay Bonilla fair market value — even though the $4 million-plus average salary would rival that of baseball's highest-paid position players, Jose Canseco ($4.7 million) and Tony Gwynn ($4,083,333).

Bonilla, runner-up to teammate Barry Bonds for the National League's most valuable player award last season, rejected a four-year, $16 million offer before going to arbitration last month. He also turned down $3.1 million for one year before losing his arbitration bid for $3,475,000.

After Bonilla lost in arbitration, Gilbert said he wanted a four-year contract worth $17.9 million, or about $4.5 million annually, plus a no-trade clause. But Barger said that "if they still want $17.9 million plus a no-trade, we have a serious problem."

• Outfielder Lonnie Smith of the Atlanta Braves had arthroscopic surgery on damaged cartilage in his left knee Wednesday and is doubtful for opening day.

The team's orthopedic surgeon, Joe Chandler, found a cartilage tear but said "everything went fine" during the 40-minute operation.

He said Smith will be out for two to four weeks, adding, "It would be unlikely he will be ready for opening day." The Braves open the season at home April 9 against the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Smith, 35, the club's regular left fielder, hit .305 with nine home runs and 42 runs batted in last season.

His injury has helped Deion Sanders's chances of making the team. Sanders, a defensive back for the Atlanta Falcons, is trying to play baseball for the Braves after having been dropped last year by the New York Yankees.

Baseball Owners Stay in Shape With a Book-Balancing Act, Forbes Figures

United Press International

NEW YORK — Despite the rapid escalation of players' salaries, major league baseball teams may not be as financially pinched as their owners and the commissioner, Fay Vincent, complain, the financial magazine Forbes suggests in its April 1 issue.

Why else, it asks, are businessmen "fighting tooth and nail to buy the National League's two new expansion teams for $95 million each?" It added: "While the reported numbers do look bad for many teams, the real returns are often far better." The reason: proper, but misleading, accounting principles that lead to better post-tax returns.

In questioning Vincent's recent claim that 10 of the 26 teams lost money last year, Forbes focuses primarily on the Pittsburgh Pirates, the only team whose 1990 financial statement has been publicly disclosed. The disclosure is a condition of a $20 million loan from Pittsburgh's Urban Redevelopment Authority.

The Pirates' 1990 income statement shows revenue of $42.8 million and an operating loss of $7 million.

But Roger Noll, a baseball accounting expert and professor of economics at Stanford University, had a different analysis. "This is not a team losing $7 million, but equivalent to one producing profits of $3 million to $4 million a year," Forbes quoted him as saying.

Noll pointed to an $8 million operating expense charged to 1990 for "grievance claims settlement" and a $2.1 million expense labeled "released player."

The first sum is the Pirates' share of the money that must be paid the players' union in a grievance settlement finding that the owners colluded to limit the movement of free agents and to hold down salaries. The second amount is the salary the Pirates' owe Walt Terrell, a pitcher they released, over the next two years.

The Pirates properly wrote off the collusion payment last year, Forbes said, but actually will not pay out the money until this year and next. The Pirates similarly wrote off all of Terrell's salary in 1990.

Forbes quotes George Sorter, a New York University professor of law and accounting, as saying the collusion payment did not really reduce the team's operating profits in 1990. "It's clearly a one-time, nonrecurring event, not an operating expense," Sorter said.

Similarly, Noll termed the money written off because of Terrell a "completely fictitious and random loss."

Forbes also pointed to subsidiary or related-party transactions that make it difficult for analysts to measure a team's actual earnings.

It cited the $1 million in income from local television rights that the Atlanta Braves claimed in 1984 against a total loss of $3 million. It said Turner Broadcasting Co., which owns the Braves and the station that broadcasts their games nationally, bought the rights at "artificial prices."

BOOKS

ONE OF US: Richard Nixon and The American Dream

By Tom Wicker. 731 pages. $24.95. Random House, 201 East 50th Street, New York, N. Y. 10022.

Reviewed by Roger Morris

ON the eve of his inauguration as vice president in January 1953, Richard Nixon received a series of letters from one of his patrons, Adela Rogers St. Johns. Advertised by the Hearst papers as "the world's greatest girl reporter" in the 1930s, she was a journalist of caustic brilliance with a maternal instinct toward promising politicians.

Now, her pupil having risen so rapidly to the very threshold of ultimate power, she was worried that he did not appreciate the importance of the press, and she poured out her ardent advice about image and political potential.

"Great opportunity lies before you . . . to serve in the high — perhaps the highest — places," she wrote the 39-year-old vice president-elect. "But . . . I am deeply concerned about your public relations . . . making NEWS, controlling NEWS, guidance of NEWS."

If her letters sound ironic today, they were taken quite seriously at the time.

Not long after those letters were read, a young Winston-Salem Journal reporter named Tom Wicker passed the vice president one night by chance in a darkened Capitol corridor. Hunched over, walking with eyes fixed on the ornate tile floor, Nixon was "preoccupied, brooding, gloomy," as Wicker recalled him, and utterly oblivious to anyone else. Yet the fleeting encounter left lasting and symbolic impressions on the journalist.

"I realized that I was seeing a man bound up in his inner being . . . more of the authentic man than most Americans had seen . . . a highly interesting, if not attractive, man."

Nixon went on, of course, to the White House and to resignation in scandal and disgrace. Wicker watched as a reporter for The New York Times, as its Washington bureau chief starting in 1964, and since 1969 as writer of the column "In the Nation," all the while mindful of the questions left by the self-absorbed figure in the hallway: Who and what was this man of such influence in American life? What was real and what was not?

"One of Us" offers the reporter's long-considered answer. It takes the subject somewhat episodically from his election to Congress in 1946 to the first years of his controversial presidency. Like many writers, Wicker is impressed with the psychological, almost the metapolitical dimensions of the story, looking for something beyond the public man with his too transparent poses, beyond to some brooding intellectual, tormented actor, wounded child.

This search for some hidden Nixon self becomes a kind of encounter with the creature from the political black lagoon, to some observers frightening and destructive, yet at heart, beneath the scales, only yearning to be liked, needed, accepted for what he is.

"Can you imagine," Wicker quotes Henry Kissinger saying to a reporter, "what this man would have been had somebody loved him?" Seen this way, the odyssey of a formidable figure tends to bog down in the psychological search.

A reporter of such ability and authority owed us much more about the Nixon childhood, evangelical religion and California setting in a book perplexed by matters of motive and mentality, more of the vast forces and money behind the man and thus the heart of the political story, more than anachronistic versions of the career-making Hiss case or the epic struggle with Earl Warren, and more about the pivotal 1946 congressional and 1950 Senate campaigns, so telling of the political man.

"The real war," Walt Whitman once remarked of the starkness of the Civil War, "will never get in the books." It is almost an epitaph for the absorption in political personality at the expense of so much that can be known — of power, of men and events, of the rich, complex, still too largely hidden reality that was and is America in the Nixon era.

Roger Morris, who was on the staff of the National Security Council under Presidents Johnson and Nixon, is the author of "Richard Milhous Nixon: The Rise of an American Politician." He wrote this for The New York Times.

BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

AT a tournament nearly sixty years ago a young unknown bridge player Charles Henry Goren showed B. Jay Becker, an already established star, a move that Goren himself had missed. Impressed by the analysis Becker later reported, "That man is a comer," and he he was right as Goren went on to become the best known figures in the game. Recently Goren celebrated his 90th birthday.

The analysis that impressed Becker concerned the deal shown in the diagram. This was in the days of strong two-bids, and nearly everyone in the competition began with two hearts and landed in the obvious contract of six hearts. Some declarers made an overtrick when West chose the disastrous lead of the club ace, but Goren was faced with a trump lead.

He was defeated by the bad diamond split, and then realized that he had missed an opportunity. After drawing trumps and cashing the top diamonds his position appeared hopeless, but he should have assumed that West, known to have begun with 11 black cards, had begun with the black spade jack and the club ace.

He should have cashed the spade ace and finessed the spade ten, holding his breath. When that succeeded he could have led the club king and discarded the spade king. West would have been forced to win, and return a black card, so the two diamond losers in the closed hands would disappear on the two black winners in the dummy.

NORTH
♠ Q 10 4
♥ 7 4 2
♦ J 7 3 2
♣ K Q 8

WEST	EAST
♠ J 8 7 6 5	♠ 9 3
♥ J	♥ 10 5 3
♦ 8	♦ Q 10 9 4
♣ A 10 9 7 3 2	♣ J 6 5 4

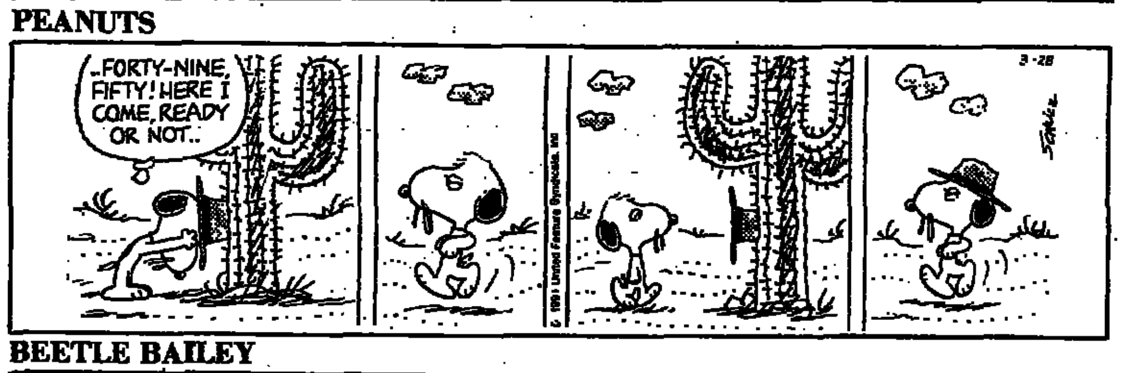
SOUTH (D)
♠ A K 2
♥ A K Q 9 8 6
♦ A K 6 5
♣ —

Both sides were vulnerable. The bidding:

South	West	North	East
2 ♥	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
6 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

West led the heart jack.

PEANUTS



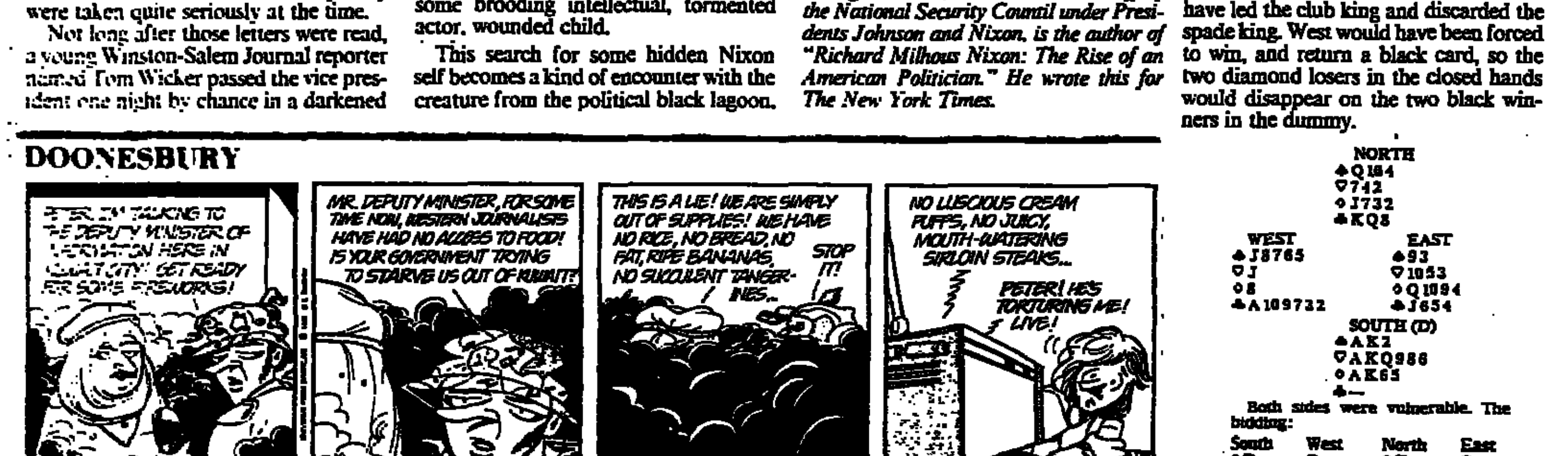
BEETLE BAILEY

CAN WE HAVE A PASS, SARGE?
SURE
HE NEVER GETS TIRED OF DOING THIS
3-28
MORT WALKER

ANDY CAPP

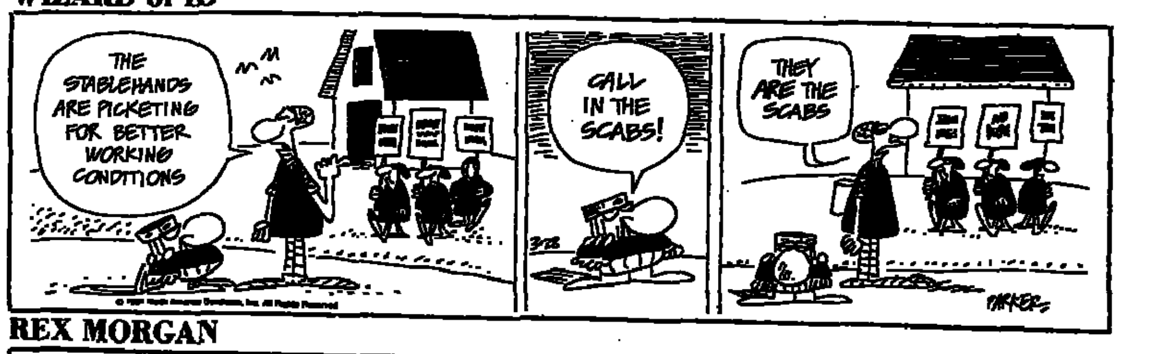
I'M STAYING IN AND KEEPING YOU COMPANY LIKE YOU ASKED, SO TALK—
...MUM'S TAKEN IN JIM THE BINGO CALLER AS A LODGER—
GOOD—I NEVER DID LIKE HIM
YOU'VE STOPPED AGAIN—
3-28

DOONESBURY



MR. DEPUTY MINISTER, FOR SOME TIME NOW, WESTERN JOURNALISTS HAVE HAD NO ACCESS TO FOOD! IS YOUR GOVERNMENT TRYING TO STARVE US OUT OF KUWAIT?
THIS IS A LIE! WE ARE SIMPLY OUT OF SUPPLIES! WE HAVE NO RICE, NO BREAD, NO FAT, RIPE BANANAS, NO SUCCULENT TANGERINES...
STOP IT!
NO LUSCIOUS CREAM PUFFS, NO JUICY, MOUTH-WATERING SIRLOIN STEAKS...
PETER! HE'S TORTURING ME! LIVE!
3-28

WIZARD of ID

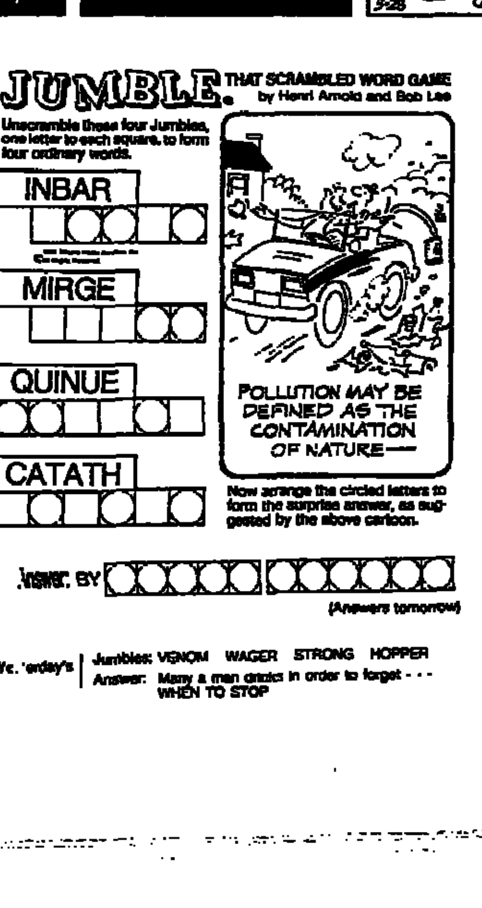


REX MORGAN

IT WAS YOU WHO TOLD THE MEDIA WHERE I WAS, RIGHT, WILLARD? I WANTED PRIVACY— AND YOU TOLD THE WORLD!
CALM DOWN, HONEY! WE NEED THE PUBLICITY RIGHT NOW! I'M WORKING ON A PLAN!
NOW, I'M REALLY SCARED!
HONEY, WHEN I'M DONE, THOSE STUDIO CREEPS WILL BE BEGGING YOU TO COME BACK TO WORK! TRUST ME!
3-28

DENNIS THE MENACE

"MR. WILSON PAYS ME TO STAY HOME! LOTSA PEOPLE PAY ME TO STAY HOME! HOW COME YOU NEVER PAY ME TO STAY HOME?"



JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.
INBAR
MIRGE
QUINUE
CATATH
POLLUTION MAY BE DEFINED AS THE CONTAMINATION OF NATURE—
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.
Answer: BY
(Answers tomorrow)
Yesterday's Jumbles: VENOM WAGER STRONG HOPPER
Answer: Many a man drinks in order to forget — WHEN TO STOP

BLONDIE

THE CHICKEN FRICASSEE SPECIAL IS FROM AN OLD FAMILY RECIPE
OKAY, I'LL TRY IT!
DID YOU SAY THIS IS FROM AN OLD FAMILY RECIPE?
I SURE DID
I WISH YOU'D HAVE KEPT IT IN THE FAMILY!
3-28

GARFIELD

TOUCH MY FOOD AND DIE!!
OH, COME ON, JON. YOU'RE NOT THAT BAD OF A COOK
JIM DAVIS 3-28

هكذا من الاصل

SPORTS

IOC Delegates Support South Africa's Return, With Tough Conditions

The Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG — A delegation from the International Olympic Committee said Wednesday it would support South Africa's return to Olympic competition if apartheid is abolished and other tough conditions met.

The six-member Commission on Apartheid and Olympism made its recommendation after five days of meetings with government, sports and black leaders.

South African sports officials portrayed the decision as a victory, but it was far less than what most privately had predicted: that the commission would recommend readmission to the IOC.

It also was uncertain if the conditions could be met in time for South Africa to compete in 1992 in Barcelona. The commission's chairman, Keba Mbaye of Senegal, said compliance would be reviewed in 180 days, but noted that invitations for the 1992 Olympics must be sent a year in advance, by July 25.

The delegation demanded the abolition of apartheid and unification of South African sports bodies into non-racial groups before IOC admission would be granted.

It said an umbrella sports organization, formed to push for unity, must comply with the Olympic Charter, which calls for sport practiced without discrimination. It further demanded that the organization normalize relations with international sports bodies, particularly the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa.

Many ANOCA members are strong supporters of the African National Congress, South Africa's leading black opposition group. The ANC has opposed the lifting of sanctions, including sports ties, until blacks get national voting rights.

"Until these conditions are met, the International Olympic Committee requires the continuation of the moratorium applied to international competition with South African sports organizations," said a statement read by Mbaye.

He dodged questions on what would constitute the "abolition" of apartheid, South Africa's system of racial segregation. President F.W. de Klerk has promised to repeal apartheid laws by June but has made no commitments on giving the black majority voting rights.

The statement expressed concern about the development of sports facilities and levels of coaching for all "disadvantaged groups" and said government and corporate help were needed to end inequities.

South Africa last competed in the Olympics in 1960 in Rome. It then was barred because of apartheid, and its IOC membership was formally suspended in 1970.

South African officials have said the IOC's president, Juan Antonio Samaranch, has indicated he would help the country prepare for reentering Olympic competition on short notice. It was not known if Samaranch would allow South Africa to enter the 1992 Games after invitations had been extended.

Dusan Vranic/The Associated Press

James Maghilton of Northern Ireland and Robert Jarni tangled in the qualifying match that Yugoslavia won, 4-1, with the help of Darko Pancev's three goals in the second half in Belgrade.

Yugoslavia, Pancev Rout Northern Ireland, 4-1

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

Darko Pancev scored three goals in 15 minutes as Yugoslavia demolished Northern Ireland, 4-1, in Belgrade on Wednesday in a qualifying match for the 1992 European soccer Championships.

Wales, another qualification group leader, held Belgium to a 1-1 tie in Brussels to stay unbeaten and atop the Group Five standings.

In other qualification games played Wednesday, England and Ireland drew, 1-1, in London, Bulgaria held Scotland to a 1-1 draw in Glasgow, and Romania crushed San Marino, 3-1, in Serravalle, San Marino.

Pancev, who plays club soccer for Red Star Belgrade, had a second-half hat-trick to stun Northern Ireland and continue Yugoslavia's unbeaten streak in Group Four.

Pancev had predicted that his team would win easily, and his goals compensated for a host of chances the Yugoslavs wasted before the interval.

Pancev, playing on Red Star's home field, increased his tally to 14 goals in 22 international matches by scoring in the 46th, 60th and 61st minutes.

Yugoslavia has now won all four qualifying matches it has played and built up a five-point lead over second-placed Denmark.

The home team, fielding five players from Red Star, a European club Champions' Cup semifinalist, struggled to come to terms with the cold drizzle and Northern Ireland's packed defense until winger Dragisa Binic opened the scoring in the 35th minute.

The visitors had stunned the home crowd seconds before halftime when Sheffield United's Colin Hill headed the ball past goalkeeper Tomislav Ivkovic in Ireland's only attack of the match.

Wales 1, Belgium 1: In Brussels, Wales stayed two points clear at the top of Group Five with its draw.

Dean Saunders levelled for Wales in the 58th minute after Marc Degryse had put Belgium in front two minutes after the interval.

Belgium dominated most of the match and repeatedly came close to scoring. They could have taken the lead after 29 minutes when Enzo Scifo headed a free-kick from Degryse against the post. Wales, who won their first two group games, have five points from three matches, two more than Belgium.

Earlier Wednesday, Belgium expelled 77 Welsh soccer fans after they went on a rampage through the center of Brussels. Most were arrested Tuesday night after clashing with a group of North Africans near the Grand Place, the main square in Brussels.

During the fighting, a policeman was injured in the eye by a bottle and the fans broke windows and damaged café furniture.

Ireland 1, England 1: England and Ireland fought out an unimaginative tie, following a familiar scenario: As in Cagliari, Sardinia, during the World Cup in June and in Dublin in November, England took the lead and Ireland equalized.

Lee Dixon put England ahead with a shot that took a violent deflection but, after regaining their composure, the Irish stormed back and Niall Quinn equalized in the 27th minute to keep Ireland at the top of Group Seven.

Bulgaria 1, Scotland 1: Substitute John Collins scored six minutes from time with his first touch of the ball but Emil Kostadinov leveled in the last minute.

Collins went on to the field eight minutes from time and headed home a center from Brian McClair two minutes later. But Kostadinov scored a leveler, rolling the ball into an empty Scottish net after goalie Andy Goram had pulled down Latchezar Tanev, believing him to be offside.

The result means unbeaten Scotland stays atop the Group Two standings with two victories and two ties. *(AP, Reuters)*

AC Milan Banned for Year

The Associated Press

ZURICH — AC Milan was banned Wednesday from next season's European club soccer competition because the Italian team had refused to play the final minute of its European Club Champions' Cup quarterfinal match in Marseille last week.

The decision was announced by the Control and Disciplinary Commission of the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA), which is the sport's governing body on the Continent.

It set the final score at 3-0, forfeit, for Olympique Marseille. The defeat ended Milan's bid for a third consecutive European title.

Milan had refused to resume playing last Wednesday's match after a light failure in the 87th minute. With Marseille leading, 1-0, Milan officials argued that television crews and other unauthorized people had disrupted the contest by invading the field before the match was officially over.

UEFA also barred Adriano Galliani, the head of the AC Milan delegation, from official UEFA functions until July 31, 1993. Galliani had waved the Milan players off the field and refused to let them resume the game.

The commission also fined Olympique Marseille 25,000 Swiss francs ($17,850) for bad match organization.

Both clubs were given until midnight March 31 to appeal the decisions and AC Milan said later it would appeal.

UEFA also banned Dynamo Dresden, the last champion in former East Germany, for two European Cup seasons because of fan rioting at a March 20 quarterfinal against Red Star Belgrade.

Duke and North Carolina: Long a State of Basketball Rivalry

By Malcolm Moran
New York Times Service

CHAPEL HILL, North Carolina — The message scratched on a barroom wall, not far from the University of North Carolina campus, was originally meant for Saddam Hussein.

But now that the semifinals of the National Collegiate Athletic Association's basketball tournament have become a more pressing concern for the Tar Heels than the leader of Iraq, the message — somewhat precise directions, actually — has been updated.

Near the end of a month in which both the Tar Heels and Duke, in nearby Durham, have advanced in the tournament, the Iraqi leader's name has been crossed out and the Blue Devils have become an equally contemptible replacement.

In the high-octane relationship between these Atlantic Coast Conference neighbors, each will bring a stronger-than-usual interest to the other's semifinal game this weekend at the Hoosier Dome in Indianapolis.

For each group, whose campuses are separated by nine miles (15 kilometers) and whose uniforms are differentiated by shades of blue, the only thing worse than their team losing would be the other school winning.

After 185 basketball games between the two universities since the 1919-20 season, familiarity has bred friendship, jealousy, respect, pettiness, creativity in the stands and a higher level of play.

Dean Smith, the North Carolina coach, laughed when he was asked if the two schools, which have made a total of 19 semifinal appearances, need each other the way spouses sometimes do.

"There are quite a few intermarriages," said Smith, whose team plays Kansas on Saturday. "I'll bet they're having a good time."

The interest is strong enough that as the Duke players were shooting before their Midwest Regional title game with St. John's in Pontiac, Michigan, some stopped to watch the end of North Carolina's victory over Temple in the Eastern Regional on the scoreboard beyond the basket.

"I don't particularly like Carolina too much," said sophomore point guard Bobby Hurley. "So it wasn't like I was happy."

He said he did not have any such feelings when he arrived at Duke. He had been recruited by North Carolina, but when Hurley sought assurances from Smith's staff that another point guard would not be recruited, he said he was told that the Tar Heels' continued interest in Kenny Anderson would make such an assurance impossible.

Hurley's negative feelings began to develop in his first game against the Tar Heels, in the light-blue surroundings of the Dean E. Smith Center, when he committed 10 turnovers in a 19-point Duke loss.

Greg Koubek, a Duke senior who has spent most of his games on the bench, understands Hurley's dislike since that frustrating initial meeting with King Rice, the North Carolina point guard.

But after so much personal frustration of his own, Koubek could identify with the Tar Heel seniors who had to watch the Blue Devils reach the final four in the three years before this. Asked about North Carolina's being in the final four this weekend, Koubek thought about Rice and Rick Fox.

"You feel good for them," said Koubek, whose team plays the University of Nevada-Las Vegas on Saturday. "They really deserve to be going to the final four. But I don't think I'd feel as good for them if we weren't in the same position. It's kind of selfish."

When the Blue Devils were beaten by UNLV by 30 points in the championship game last April, Pete Chilcutt, then a Carolina junior, was in front of a television set. "I really enjoyed that game," Chilcutt said."

North Carolina fans will now be able to open the wound of the Tar Heels' recent 22-point victory over Duke in the ACC championship game — to go along with, for instance, the 1974 overtime Tar Heel victory in old Carmichael Auditorium, a game in which Carolina trailed by 8 points with 17 seconds to go in regulation time.

In addition to two victories over the Tar Heels in the 1990-91 regular season, Duke fans can call upon Gene Banks's 18-foot turnaround jump shot in the final second of regulation time, which led to a 66-65 victory over the 1981-82 North Carolina team, which later won the national championship.

They can mention the triple-overtime victory in 1968 over the Tar Heel team that reached the NCAA final later that month but lost to UCLA.

And Duke fans can also remember one of their finest hours, the 1984 game with North Carolina that took place just after their crudeness in Cameron Indoor Stadium had been criticized in a letter from Duke's president.

When the Tar Heels came to Durham that year, the Duke students wore halos made of aluminum foil and held up a banner that read, "A Hearty Welcome To Dean Smith."

When a Tar Heel stood at the foul line, a Duke student held a sign that read, "Please Miss." And when an official made an unpopular decision, the response in the stands was: "We beg to differ. We beg to differ."

But none of these memories would be able to match a national championship meeting.

"That would be crazy if it happens," Chilcutt said. "It's pretty crazy right now."

4 French Teams Are Barred From Signing New Players

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — Nice, Toulon, Nancy, and Toulouse have become the latest first division teams to be banned from signing new players next season as the French soccer federation attempts to stem its financial crisis.

Nice has debts of 52 million francs ($10 million), Toulon of 49 million francs, Nancy of 38 million and Toulouse of 25 million.

Brest, already been banned from making transfer deals, owes 115 million francs, while Nantes, with debts of 36 million has been bailed out by local officials.

In the second division, Reims was banned Wednesday by the league's management and control body from any new signings.

The financial plight of three more first division clubs, Bordeaux, with estimated debts of 300 million francs, Lille and Montpellier are to be discussed at the management group's next meeting in early April.

The spiraling cost of players, coupled with poor attendance, has led French clubs into a cumulative debt of a billion francs.

In Bordeaux, the team's fans announced plans for a mass march Saturday in support of their team and receivers, who said they were in touch with potential investors and were producing a plan for an eventual takeover bid, announced a two-week delay before liquidation.

Meanwhile, first-division leader Olympique Marseille, preparing for the Club Champions' Cup semifinals, said it will use its third-division team against seventh-place Brest, which has refused to postpone the April 6 match until May 1.

Marseille has a match against Dijon in the French Cup on April 3 and is to play the first leg of its cup semifinal against Spartak Moscow on April 10.

Moreover, several Marseille players are on the French national team, which plays Albania on Saturday night in a European Nations Cup elimination match. *(AFP, AP)*

■ Maradona Is Penalized

Diego Maradona of Napoli was barred Wednesday from Saturday's league contest against Internazionale of Milan by Italy's disciplinary commission, The Associated Press reported from Milan.

Maradona was also fined $500 for protesting the referee's decisions in Sunday's 4-1 loss to Sampdoria.

It's Milutinovic, Officially

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Bora Milutinovic, who coached Mexico to a sixth-place finish at the 1986 World Cup and took Costa Rica into the second round last year, was formally introduced Wednesday as the new coach of the U.S. national team.

The U.S. Soccer Federation's president, Alan Rothenberg, referred to the 1980 U.S. Olympic ice hockey team's gold-medal winning "Miracle on Ice" and said that in 1994 Milutinovic would perform "splendor in the grass."

Milutinovic, 46, somewhat reservedly predicted victory in 1994, when the World Cup will be held in the United States.

"The final game is my dream," Milutinovic said. "But if you don't dream, you'll never get there."

He replaces Bob Gansler, who qualified the United States for the 1990 World Cup — its first in 40 years. But it finished 23d among 24 teams and he resigned last month after a 1-0 loss to Bermuda.

Milutinovic, who speaks his native Serbo-Croatian, French, Spanish and German, began intensely studying English last week, according to U.S. federation officials.

"When I'm with the players, I don't talk much but I show and teach," he said. "I have quite a big soccer vocabulary."

Milutinovic got a contract through the 1994 World Cup, according to U.S. soccer officials.

A list of about 30 candidates was pared until only Milutinovic and the former Dutch national team's coach, Thijs Libregts, remained, said USSF's secretary general, Hank Steinbrecher.

SIDELINES

NCAA Lets Minnesota Off Lightly

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The National Collegiate Athletic Association banned Wednesday the University of Minnesota football team from postseason play next season and stripped the men's basketball team of one scholarship next season for rules infractions.

The limited sanctions follow a two-year investigation completed in mid-December, in which the infractions committee found 21 violations. They involved a former football coach, Lou Holtz; a fired administrator, Luther Darville; the football coach, John Gutekunst; the basketball coach, Clem Haskins, and the wrestling coach, J. Robinson.

The university qualified as a repeat offender because the basketball team was placed on two years' probation with minor sanctions in March 1988. The committee said it opted for milder penalties because of several mitigating factors, including the university's own investigation and its efforts to correct the problems on its own.

Fenech, King Sign $4 Million Deal

SYDNEY (AP) — Three-time world boxing champion Jeff Fenech signed a four-fight deal Wednesday with promoter Don King that could be worth $4 million, Fenech's Australian promoter announced.

Bill Mordey said the unbeaten Fenech first would challenge Azumah Nelson of Ghana for the World Boxing Council super-featherweight title in Las Vegas on June 28. The bout will be on the undercard to the Mike Tyson-Razor Ruddock heavyweight rematch.

If Fenech beats Nelson, King wants him to have two more fights before challenging undisputed world lightweight champion, Pernell Whitaker of the United States, Mordey said.

For the Record

The world equestrian games will be held in Paris in 1994, the International Equestrian Federation said on Wednesday. *(Reuters)*

Henri Leconte and Guy Forget were selected Wednesday to play singles in France's Davis Cup series with Israel this weekend. *(Reuters)*

Ilie Nastase, Guillermo Vilas and Ashley Cooper were named to the International Tennis Hall of Fame on Tuesday. *(AP)*

Wayne Gretzky ended a 10-game goal-scoring drought, the longest of his career, with two goals Tuesday night, the second giving him 40 in a season for the 12th straight year and 717 for his career — tying Phil Esposito for third on the all-time list. *(AP)*

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

NBA Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Boston	50	19	.725	—
Philadelphia	38	31	.551	12
New York	34	36	.486	16½
Washington	26	42	.382	23½
New Jersey	23	47	.329	27½
Miami	21	49	.300	29½
Central Division				
x-Chicago	51	17	.750	—
x-Detroit	43	27	.614	9
x-Milwaukee	42	28	.600	10
Atlanta	38	32	.543	14
Indiana	35	35	.500	17
Cleveland	24	44	.353	27
Charlotte	20	49	.290	31½

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Utah	46	22	.676	—
x-San Antonio	45	23	.662	1
x-Houston	44	24	.647	2
Dallas	25	42	.373	20½
Orlando	24	43	.358	21½
Minnesota	22	46	.324	24
Denver	18	51	.261	28½
Pacific Division				
x-Portland	50	18	.735	—
x-L.A. Lakers	50	20	.714	1
x-Phoenix	48	22	.686	3
Golden State	36	33	.522	14½
Seattle	32	36	.471	18
L.A. Clippers	26	44	.371	25
Sacramento	18	49	.269	31½

x-clinched playoff berth

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

Golden State 31 27 25 11—94
Charlotte 24 29 17 27—97
Mullin 8-15 6-8 22, Richmond 8-16 6-7 22; Chapman 8-20 1-2 17, Gattison 5-10 6-9 16, Newman 6-16 3-6 16. Rebounds: Golden State 53 (Lister 7), Charlotte 65 (Gattison 12). Assists: Golden State 22 (Hardaway 11), Charlotte 29 (Bogues 8).

Atlanta 27 26 32 28—113
Indiana 29 29 31 34—123
Wilkins 13-26 8-9 34, Willis 7-15 7-8 21; Miller 8-14 6-6 24, Person 9-16 5-7 24. Rebounds: Atlanta 44 (Koncak 10), Indiana 65 (Schrempf 11). Assists: Atlanta 21 (Webb 7), Indiana 34 (Schrempf 12).

Cleveland 24 13 29 32—98
Miami 18 32 27 27—104
Daugherty 4-9 8-12 16, James 6-12 2-2 15; Edwards 12-21 2-2 28, Rice 9-16 2-3 21. Rebounds: Cleveland 61 (Williams 13), Miami 59 (Burton 10). Assists: Cleveland 18 (Bennett 4), Miami 22 (Edwards 7).

Philadelphia 26 21 18 25 5—95
New Jersey 25 28 22 15 8—98
Barkley 14-23 3-7 32, Hawkins 5-19 3-4 15; Blaylock 11-22 3-3 25, Coleman 8-22 7-10 23. Rebounds: Philadelphia 56 (Barkley 17), New Jersey 70 (Coleman 13). Assists: Philadelphia 19 (Barkley, Turner 6), New Jersey 18 (Morris 5).

Minnesota 18 27 31 19—95
Phoenix 33 39 22 23—117
Mitchell 8-16 3-3 19, Campbell 6-19 4-5 16; Johnson 10-16 6-6 27, McDaniel 11-21 0-0 22. Rebounds: Minnesota 58 (Corbin 12), Phoenix 68 (M.West 13). Assists: Minnesota 18 (Corbin, Richardson 4), Phoenix 31 (Johnson 10).

New York 34 28 27 22 8—119
San Antonio 27 31 24 29 18—129
Ewing 15-37 7-8 37, Vandeweghe 8-11 2-2 19; Elliott 10-14 13-15 34, Strickland 6-12 9-10 21. Rebounds: New York 45 (Ewing 9), San Antonio 64 (Cummings 11). Assists: New York 34 (Cheeks 10), San Antonio 32 (Strickland 16).

Seattle 21 26 33 33—113
Portland 28 36 35 27—126
Pierce 8-20 4-4 21, Benjamin 7-9 3-3 17, Johnson 5-9 7-8 17; Drexler 11-22 6-7 30, Porter 6-12 8-13 22. Rebounds: Seattle 49 (Cage 8), Portland 56 (Kersey 11). Assists: Seattle 22 (Threatt, Pierce 4), Portland 20 (Porter 10).

European Basketball

CUP WINNERS' CUP
Final, Tuesday

PAOK Salonika 76, CAI Zaragoza 72

BASEBALL

Exhibition Games

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

Detroit 3, Kansas City 0
Pittsburgh 7, Chicago White Sox 6
Baltimore 9, Philadelphia 9, tie, 12 innings
New York Mets 3, Minnesota 2, 10 innings
Atlanta 3, Houston 2
Boston 6, Cincinnati 3
Toronto 6, Texas 2
New York Yankees 9, Los Angeles 6
California 16, Chicago Cubs 4
San Francisco 5, San Diego 1

HOCKEY

NHL Standings

WALES CONFERENCE
Patrick Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
x-Pittsburgh	40	32	5	85	328	271
x-N.Y. Rangers	35	30	13	83	286	256
Washington	35	35	7	77	249	253
New Jersey	31	31	15	77	266	254
Philadelphia	33	36	9	75	248	260
N.Y. Islanders	23	44	10	56	215	282
Adams Division						
y-Boston	43	23	12	98	289	256
x-Montreal	38	29	11	87	268	242
x-Buffalo	30	30	17	77	278	267
x-Hartford	31	36	10	72	227	260
Quebec	15	49	13	43	225	345

CAMPBELL CONFERENCE
Norris Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
x-Chicago	47	22	8	102	273	205
x-St. Louis	44	22	11	99	300	247
x-Detroit	33	36	8	74	262	281
x-Minnesota	26	37	14	66	248	257
Toronto	23	44	11	57	236	308
Smythe Division						
x-Los Angeles	45	23	10	100	331	244
x-Calgary	45	25	7	97	338	250
x-Edmonton	35	37	5	75	256	260
Vancouver	27	43	9	63	240	313
Winnipeg	26	41	11	63	255	279

x-clinched playoff berth

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

Buffalo 1 0 3—4
Washington 1 0 1—2
Tonti (7), Ledyard (7), Andreychuk 2 (36); Khristich 2 (12). Shots on goal: Buffalo (on Liut) 8-8-8—24. Washington (on Puppa) 11-7-6—24.

Pittsburgh 2 1 0—3
Philadelphia 1 0 0—1
Lemieux 3 (19); Berube (7). Shots on goal: Pittsburgh (on Peeters) 7-9-5—21. Philadelphia (on Barrasso) 20-13-16—49.

Chicago 0 1 1 0—2
Toronto 0 0 2 0—2
Larmer (44), Roenick (41); Maguire (9), Romage (10). Shots on goal: Chicago (on Ing) 17-10-11-4—42. Toronto (on Belfour) 8-8-8-1—25.

New Jersey 1 2 0 0—3
N.Y. Rangers 0 3 0 0—3
Lemieux (30), Driver (9), Shanahan (27); Millen (2), Gartner 2 (48). Shots on goal: New Jersey (on Richter) 12-13-10-2—37. New York (on Terreri) 4-18-14-5—41.

Boston 1 3 3—7
Quebec 1 2 1—4
Hodge (28), Bourque (20), Wiemer 2 (4), Hoover (4), Neely 2 (50); Sakic (48), Pearson (10), Morin 2 (10). Shots on goal: Boston (on Tugnutt) 12-14-9—35. Quebec (on Lemelin) 6-12-8—26.

Vancouver 1 1 0—2
Calgary 2 3 2—7
Linden (33), Ronning (19); Reichel (17), Roberts (22), MacInnis 2 (27), Fleury 3 (50). Shots on goal: Vancouver (on Wamsley) 11-11-11—33. Calgary (on Mason) 9-9-8—26.

Edmonton 0 0 0—0
Los Angeles 1 0 1—2
Gretzky 2 (40). Shots on goal: Edmonton (on Hrudey) 4-12-17—33. Los Angeles (on Ranford) 17-10-14—41.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
American League

BALTIMORE—Optioned Anthony Telford, pitcher, and Jeff Tackett, catcher, to Rochester, International League. Released Pete Stanicek, infielder, from minor-league camp.

CLEVELAND—Put Ever Magallanes, infielder, on waivers to send him to minor leagues. Optioned Kevin Wickander, pitcher, to Colorado Springs, Pacific Coast League. Sent Brian Johnson, catcher, to minor-league camp for reassignment.

KANSAS CITY—Released Greg Mathews, pitcher. Sent Andy Allanson, catcher, and Archie Corbin, pitcher, to minor league camp for reassignment.

MINNESOTA—Optioned Paul Abbott and Rich Garces, pitchers; Jarvis Brown and J.T. Bruett, outfielders; Terry Jorgensen, third baseman; and Paul Sorrento, first baseman, to Portland, Pacific Coast League. Optioned Derek Parks, catcher, to Orlando, Southern League.

National League

L.A. DODGERS—Agreed to terms with Gary Carter, catcher, on one-year contract. Designated Dave Walsh, for assignment and put him on waivers.

PHILADELPHIA—Optioned Andy Ashby, pitcher, to Scranton-Wilkes-Barre, International League.

SAN DIEGO—Claimed Jose Melendez, pitcher, on waivers from Seattle.

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ART BUCHWALD

In Hock for the Kids

WASHINGTON — Now that the Gulf war is over, we have all returned to our favorite subject at the dinner table — children.

It started when someone raised the question, what do we do with our money?

"Ours," said Zeigfield, "goes for taxes and children."

Bloomgarden said, "It's different in our family. Our money goes to the children and whatever's in miscellaneous is for taxes."

Buchwald

Debbie Dawson told us, "After paying for rock concerts, we're lucky to have any money left over for Cheerios."

Bloomgarden asked, "I wonder if any of our children appreciate the fact that because of them we have no money for ourselves?"

"They probably would," Sagebrush told him, "if they weren't so engrossed with their Nintendo games."

Debbie Dawson said, "Our kids are in college. They are certain that their tuition is paid for by the Easter Bunny."

I didn't want to be left out of the conversation. "I mentioned to mine that money didn't grow on trees, and you can't believe how shocked they were. One even asked, 'Are you sure?' "

□

It turned out that every member of our group was in hock because of children.

"Why do we deprive ourselves of so much to enable our children to have everything?"

Paul Lopatin joined in, "We do it because they might think less of us if we didn't. How can any of us look into the teary eyes of a child and say 'no' when he or she asks for a Sony Walkman? Lilly and I made a vow when we got married that we would go to the poorhouse rather than let one of our flesh and blood cry for even a minute of their lives."

"We had to redo Alice's room from top to bottom because she just discovered pink," Brumbecker said.

Susan Pepper wanted to know, "Do you think that someday they'll realize we didn't spend any money on ourselves so that they could have it ALL?"

I replied, "How could they know?"

□

Maurice Sislen said, "We've been very lucky. Our kids don't ask for money — only things."

I laughed, "What kind of things?"

"For example, last week my son asked for a motorcycle. I explained to him that the only spare cash we had had been set aside for a trip to visit his grandmother in Iowa. He said that he didn't want to pressure us, but most of his friends' parents had canceled their trips to buy Harley-Davidsons for their children."

"At least when we grow old," I mused, "we can sit in a wheelchair in a nursing home and know that we did right by our children. We never deprived them of whatever they felt they had coming to them."

"Yes," sighed Susan Pepper, "but the question is, will they come to visit us in the nursing home?"

Debbie Dawson said, "Why should they if they have everything already?"

Swedish Divers Spot 1525 Ship

The Associated Press

STOCKHOLM — Divers have discovered the remains of a vessel that sank in 1525, two years after a ceremony on its decks marked the creation of the Swedish nation.

Divers used sonar to locate the three-masted Lybske Swan, a man-of-war, in the Stockholm archipelago, under 150 feet (45 meters) of water. The 100-foot ship had broken apart but the wood was preserved in the brackish Baltic, where wood-eating worms do not thrive. "It was as if time had stood still 465 years," said the diver Adam Tolby, who spotted the wreckage in November.

The Lybske Swan is older than two other well known sailing ships that have been raised from the seabed and put on display. One is the Mary Rose, the British flagship of King Henry VIII, which sank near Portsmouth in 1545. The other is the Wasa, intended as the flagship of Swedish King Gustavus Adolphus II. The Wasa is exhibited in Stockholm, near the harbor where it sank on its maiden voyage in 1628.

A Milestone For a Musical Legend

By Craig R. Whitney
New York Times Service

LONDON — Beyond virtuosity as he approaches his 75th birthday, the legendary violinist Yehudi Menuhin says that the most important thing he tries to pass on to his younger students is a sense of style.

Preparing to visit his 95-year-old, Crimean-born mother, Marutha, on a birthday celebration tour of California this month, Menuhin confessed the other day that performing wasn't always easy for him anymore.

"It becomes both easier and harder — easier because I know very clearly what I'm about," he said. "It becomes harder simply as a function of age. My contribution is not only musicianship, it's a sense of style. Young musicians often play the notes clearly and cleanly, but classical music needs interpretation. That's where I feel I can be useful."

The performing career that began when he was a boy of 7 in San Francisco is far from over. "I really don't feel at my age that I should try to play the Paganini concerto," he said, referring to one of the technical monsters of the repertory. "But to play chamber music, recording the seven Vivaldi concerti, playing the Beethoven concerto, that is rather fun. That is the direction of my music now, and teaching, and being surrounded by wonderful young people."

He serves as a judge in two international competitions named after him, for string quartets and violinists, as well as maintaining connections with the Yehudi Menuhin School of Music in Stoke D'Abernon, England, and the International Menuhin Music Academy in Gstaad, Switzerland.

The concert stage provides other opportunities. He will mark his birthday with an April 22 concert at Royal Festival Hall, where he will play the two violin romances by Beethoven, with Vladimir Ashkenazy conducting, and then conduct the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and chorus in a new work, "Prayer," written for him by the Soviet composer Rodion Shchedrin, and in Beethoven's Ninth Symphony.

EMI Classics has also issued a set of five compact disks of Menuhin recordings to mark the occasion.

Menuhin's rich, modulated voice seems to speak in the cultivated tones of an Upper East Side drawing room gathering in New York City, though he actually lives in a comfortable town house on Chester Square in London with his second wife, Diana.

He is engaged in a fierce battle to prevent publication of a biography, "Menuhin, a Family Portrait," by the filmmaker Tony Palmer.

The book, like Palmer's documentary that was televised here in December, asserts that Menuhin's mother dominated his early life and career, telling his first wife, Nola, to abstain from sex before concerts. And it says that Menuhin himself neglected and estranged his two children from his first marriage.

"They rang up and said they were absolutely appalled," Menuhin said. "I gave Tony Palmer my complete trust, and I feel betrayed. I don't want to see it published."

The violinist said that he and his lawyers had succeeded in talking his friend Lord Weidenfeld out of having Weidenfeld & Nicolson publish the book. Palmer then took it to Faber & Faber, which plans to publish it this summer. "There are no grounds at the moment not to go ahead," said Matthew Evans, Faber & Faber's chairman. "There's been no threat of libel, just a broadside attack on the book."

Menuhin said he revered his parents, and he clearly still feels close to his mother. She wanted to give him an unmistakably Jewish name, he said, after the family had been turned down for an apartment by an anti-Semitic landlord in New York City, where Menuhin was born in 1916. "It means simply 'the Jew,' and there's simply no escape," he said in Palmer's documentary.

Camera Press

Violinist Menuhin will turn 75 next month.

A slight deafness and a vestigial thatch of gray hair belie a mind of undiminished agility that sees violin-playing and politics as often misused instruments of harmony.

Referring to some younger players, he said, "They're either geishas or samurais — they either tear the Brahms concerto apart, without any sense of proportions or limits, or they just play the notes. Or they tear up the Bartók concerto because, you know, 'Bartók was a hot-blooded Hungarian.' And the audience, too, hasn't been taught matters of style."

Yet he also counts himself among the admirers of such younger fiddlers as Vladimir Spivakov and Yuri Bashmet in the Soviet Union, and Robert McDuffie, who he said was one of the many former students of Dorothy DeLay at the Juilliard School in New York. "But they don't do enough chamber music either at Juilliard or in Moscow," he chided.

He reminded an interviewer that he had won the right to keep his American citizenship in a celebrated battle with a United States consular clerk in Switzerland two decades ago, after he had accepted honorary Swiss citizenship. But Menuhin is also a British subject.

And he is not shy about expressing his political views, wherever he is. California, the state where he grew up, is cutting budgets for music schools, he said. "They," he said, apparently meaning most governments everywhere, "never cut taxes, they cut budgets, art and culture, whatever it's worth living for."

PEOPLE

James Brown Is Back

James Brown is back, on the tube. The singer, released from prison in South Carolina Feb. 27, is set to make his first appearance in two years, although in a limited setting: On June 10 he will be featured in a pay-per-view television show at the Wiltern Theatre in Los Angeles. Viewers will pay $19.95. Brown, 57, began serving 25 months in December 1988 for aggravated assault, failing to stop his car when ordered and possessing a shotgun. Brown said that he would be recording in two weeks and eventually would appear at the Apollo Theatre in Harlem.

□

Oliver Stone was rebuffed in his bid to film a re-enactment of President **John F. Kennedy's** assassination from the sixth floor of the former Texas School Book Depository in Dallas. Dallas County commissioners said they wouldn't reconsider their decision denying Stone's request. The building now houses county offices as well as a museum. It was the third time in three weeks that the film's co-producer had made the request. The foundation's board of directors, which oversees the sixth-floor exhibit, voted 5-4 last week to give Stone access to the building but not the sixth floor. Earlier, some county commissioners had said they would approve the Stone request to position movie cameras in the window where **Lee Harvey Oswald** shot Kennedy on Nov. 22, 1963.

□

The superagent **Michael Ovitz** was ranked No. 1 on Premiere magazine's list of the 100 most powerful people in Hollywood for the second straight year. Ovitz's firm, Creative Artists Agency, represents some of the biggest actors, directors and writers in the entertainment business; he added to his fame by helping the Japanese firm Matsushita purchase MCA. Studio executives dominate the upper level of the magazine's list; **Arnold Schwarzenegger**, in the No. 13 spot, is the first actor ranked.

□

Mr. Spock, call home in Vulcan, Alberta. The rural Canadian farming and ranching town of 1,400 people celebrated **Leonard Nimoy's** 60th birthday this week by putting on pointed ears and proclaiming "live long and prosper" — the Vulcan toast from Nimoy's days as Spock on "Star Trek" — at a party at the Legion Hall. The town of Vulcan, about 100 miles north of the Montana border, also plans a summerlong celebration of the 25th anniversary of "Star Trek."

□

Since his retirement March 8, **Thomas W. Kelly**, the lieutenant general who was director of operations for the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and was seen in living rooms around the world briefing the media during the Gulf war, has been booked for about 50 speeches over the next couple of months at $20,000 each. . . . **General Norman Schwarzkopf** will take time out from his duties in the Gulf to make a contribution to the Walt Disney World Happy Easter Parade. He will tape a segment addressing military personnel and their families; it will be aired during the ABC-TV coverage of the parade Sunday from Disney World.

□

Paul Bowles, the American writer who has lived in Morocco for more than 40 years, was named the winner of the $25,000 Rea short story award. Although best known for his novel "The Sheltering Sky," Bowles is the author of 11 story collections.

□

The Vatican said Wednesday that **Pope John Paul II** has accepted the resignation of the 91-year-old Czechoslovak Cardinal **Frantisek Tomasek**, who was imprisoned by the Communists after World War II. Tomasek had asked to be relieved of his duty as archbishop of Prague for reasons of age. The pope named **Bishop Miloslav Vlk**, of the diocese of Ceske Budejovice, to succeed Tomasek as archbishop of Prague. Tomasek was arrested in 1951 and freed in 1954.

□

Andrew Lloyd Webber says his former wife, **Sarah Brightman**, will sing in a program of his music in London in May. When Lloyd Webber and Brightman were divorced in November, he said the split would not affect their professional relationship. She was the star of his musical "Phantom of the Opera" and has been appearing in the U. S. production of his "Aspects of Love." Lloyd Webber will supervise Brightman and the orchestra for the 13 performances of "The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber," at the Prince Edward Theatre. Lloyd Webber recently married **Madeleine Gurdon**.

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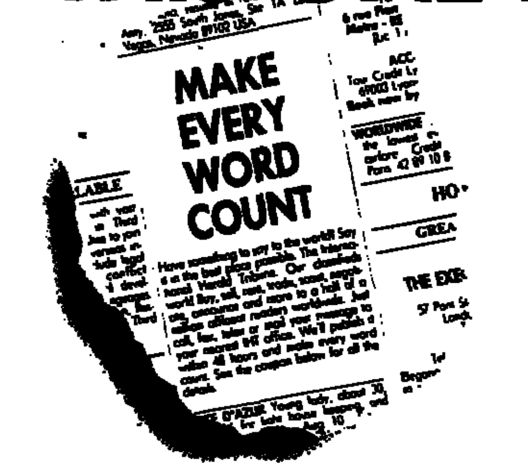

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